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thought of  
suicide

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# THE JERUSALEM POST

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Sport p. 7



## Full support for Mitzna from CGS Shomron

By ASHER WALLFISH  
Post Knesset Correspondent

Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron defended OC Central Command Amram Mitzna all along the line yesterday in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and said that nobody had the right to affix political labels to IDF commanders.

Shomron said: "Mitzna is an excellent officer with a great capacity for establishing rapport with other people."

This followed Mitzna's description of the settlers' rampage at the Dehaishe refugee camp in Bethlehem last Saturday night as "an abomination (nevala)."

Mitzna has been scored for his remarks by adherents of the Kach and Tehiya factions. But in the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Mitzna's only critic was Likud MK David Magen, who was trying to avenge the offence which Mitzna gave to Magen's patron Ariel Sharon, which was defence minister during the Peace for Galilee operation.

During that war Mitzna got up at a packed meeting of senior officers and sharply criticized Sharon.

Magen said that Mitzna's appointment as OC Central Command was a mistake because it did not take into account the sensitivities of the settlers in Judea and Samaria who came under the authority of the command. It would have been different, he said, had Mitzna been appointed OC Northern Command.

But Magen's Likud colleague Ehud Olmert made it clear that Magen's view was strictly personal. Olmert said that Mitzna's actions and words were absolutely in order

after the Dehaishe affair.

"I do not have a single word of reservation about the general. What happened was an abomination and should be put on record as such. At the same time, blame for the rampage lies solely with a small group of provocateurs, who may conceivably be foreign agents," Olmert said.

Committee chairman Abba Eban sharply decried the criticism of Mitzna.

CAIRO. — Egypt told Israel yesterday it deplores the "oppressive measures" practised by Israeli authorities and settlers against Palestinians in the territories, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Assistant Foreign Minister Hassan Abadi summoned Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sasson and told him Egypt deeply regretted attacks by Israeli settlers on the Dehaishe refugee camp, the spokesman added.

Abadi reportedly told Sasson: "These Israeli actions neither help nor serve the attempts to create the atmosphere necessary to seek a peaceful solution to the region's problems." (Reuters, AP)

na's statement from parts of the far right. Yossi Sarid (Citizens Rights Movement) said the rioters at Dehaishe were "Jewish Khmeimists." After trying to turn Mitzna into "an enemy of the people," Sarid said, they would turn upon Shomron himself and depict him as "an anti-Semite."

Sarid added: "The aim of these people is to intimidate the IDF and prevent it from doing its duty."

Shomron conceded at another point in the discussion that during

the Peace of Galilee operation (at the meeting where Mitzna criticized the defence minister), "Mitzna said things which he should not have said. But since then, he has come on extremely well."

Meanwhile, Tehiya leader Prof. Yuval Ne'eman has written to Attorney-General Yosef Harish asking him to take legal measures against Mitzna for contempt of court in the Dehaishe affair.

Ne'eman wrote that Mitzna had violated the *sub judice* rule in his statements on the events.

On the opposite side of the political spectrum, Haim Ramon (Alignment) wrote Harish asking him to take legal measures against the Kiyat Arba rioters for having committed another offence under the penal code, namely insulting a civil servant, Mitzna.

Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement) wrote President Chaim Herzog and Justice Minister Avraham Shari' yesterday, saying that their clemency process on behalf of the Jewish anti-terror underground should be shelved. The night pogrom at Dehaishe showed that the underground was not a one-shot affair but a widening phenomenon, she wrote.

Ya'acov Friedler adds from Haifa: Prime Minister Shamir yesterday again declined to make an outright condemnation of the rampage in Dehaishe.

He said he only "hoped that the general public condemnation of the incident will prevent a recurrence."

Shamir did however mildly criticize Mitzna: "Such expressions [as 'abomination'] inflame tempers rather than soothe them," he said.

## Other states to follow Togo

By BENNY MORRIS

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Two more black African states—in addition to Togo which announced the renewal of ties yesterday—are likely to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel before the end of the year, according to Benad Avital, the director of the Foreign Ministry's Africa Department.

Avital, speaking on Israel Radio yesterday from Lome, Togo, was interviewed after the Togo government's statement. The decision, expected for some time in Jerusalem, was taken yesterday morning by the Togolese cabinet.

The Togo government party, The Rally for the Togolese People, quoted President Gnassingbe Eyadema as having explained that "such relations [with Israel] are now normal and natural after Egypt itself had restored them following the Camp David agreement." Togo, like the other African countries which severed ties with Israel, said at the time it did so out of "African solidarity with Egypt" and in order to protest against Israel's occupation of the Sinai.

The smallest African state is the fifth black African state to restore ties with Israel in the past three years, after Zaire, Liberia, the Ivory Coast and Cameroon had done so. Twenty-nine black African countries broke relations with Israel during the Yom Kippur War.

The Prime Minister's Office yesterday greeted the news of the Togolese move "with satisfaction, on the eve of Prime Minister Shamir's visit to Africa." Shamir leaves next week for Liberia and Cameroon.

Originally, it was planned that Shamir would visit Zaire. But Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko will next week be in Khartoum and Shamir is unwilling to visit Khartoum without Mobutu being present.

Jerusalem had also been interested in a visit to the Ivory Coast but Abidjan said that it preferred a visit in July.

Referring to the renewal of diplomatic relations with Togo, Foreign Minister Peres revealed yesterday that the announcement was to have been made last January, but premature publicity had forced a postponement.

In his radio interview yesterday, Avital said that another six African countries had announced their intention of reestablishing relations with Israel.

## Western leaders take strong line against terrorism

VENICE. — Western leaders yesterday renounced making deals with terrorists, endorsed nuclear deterrence and stressed their intention to keep the Gulf open for oil tankers as they continued their seven-nation meeting under tightened security.

Shortly before yesterday's morning-session, bombs exploded at the British and American embassies in Rome, 550 kilometres to the southwest, slightly injuring one person and shattering windows at the U.S. mission.

A car bomb blew up near the U.S. embassy and homemade rockets were fired at the embassy compound and at the British embassy a kilometre away, police said. State television linked the attacks to the Venice summit.

An anonymous caller telephoned the Associated Press in London to claim that a group called the "Anti-Imperialist International Brigade" was responsible for the blast as "direct answer to the state terrorism of international imperialism led by the U.S."

Earlier, there was a brief scare when what Italian police thought was a mine was detected floating in the Venetian lagoon that surrounds the San Giorgio Island where the leaders

are meeting. But police said later it turned out to be a harmless metal container.

In a series of declarations, the leaders Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States said they:

□ "Confirm the commitment of each of us to the principle of making no concessions to terrorists or their sponsors."

□ "Note with satisfaction that dialogue on arms control has intensified and that more favourable prospects have emerged for the reduction of nuclear forces."

□ "Agree that new and concerned international efforts are urgently required to help bring the Iraq-Iran war to an end."

The statement on terrorism was the sixth communiqué the leaders had issued on the subject since they began meeting in 1975, but the first since disclosures last year that U.S. officials had been selling arms to Iran as part of an attempt to free American hostages in Lebanon.

The leaders pledged to halt all air travel to and from countries that refuse to cooperate in cases involving not only hijackings but also other violations of aviation security.

Citing "our people's concern" with the threat of terrorism, the leaders said broader international

commitments were needed to deal more effectively with all forms of terrorism involving civil aviation.

The leaders said they were resolved to apply what they called effective measures against "any state clearly involved in sponsoring or supporting international terrorism." They did not mention any country by name.

They also pledged more cooperation in the investigation, apprehension and prosecution of terrorists.

"In particular, we reaffirm the principle established by relevant international conventions of trying or extraditing... those who have perpetrated acts of terrorism," the declaration said.

"Each of us will continue to monitor closely the activities of airlines which raise security problems," it added, without mentioning any airlines by name.

A British government official said the Venice statement marked the first time that the summit leaders together had explicitly agreed not to make concessions to terrorists.

President Reagan gained diplomatic and symbolic help on Monday but neither requested nor received any military commitment

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## Gush Emunim demands inquiry

By JOEL GREENBERG

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

Gush Emunim yesterday called for an independent inquiry commission into Saturday night's rampage by settlers at the Dehaishe refugee camp, citing a "public lynch" atmosphere against the suspects.

A statement by the movement said the facts surrounding the incident were still in dispute, and "nothing had been proven." It expressed regret over a statement on the rampage by OC Central Command Amram Mitzna, labelling the riot "an abomination." The remark could be interpreted as a political opinion, the statement said.

The Council of Settlements in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District issued a condemnation of the Dehaishe rampage, but prefaced it with a call for tougher measures against Arab violence. "A wave of

terror is sweeping the country... encouraged by important elements in the Israeli public," the statement said. "This requires the security forces to take new operational moves to stamp out terrorism and its supporters."

An Arab was stabbed and lightly wounded in the face and hand at Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem last night.

A curfew was imposed on the Dehaishe refugee camp near Bethlehem last night after a stone was thrown at an Egged bus, smashing its windshield and lightly wounding a passenger. After the curfew was imposed, people inside the camp threw stones at IDF troops.

Soldiers and police set up road blocks near the camp, barring entry. Four suspects from the camp were detained.

The statement, drafted after a lengthy debate, affirmed that the IDF and defence establishment bore sole responsibility for security. "It is inconceivable that civilians, whatever their motives, act instead of the security forces," it said. "The actions of those who attacked IDF soldiers and local residents are completely negative... contrary to any norm of the council, and damaging to settlement."

In a reference to Mitzna, the statement called on army men to "refrain from expressing opinions on issues of public controversy. Such remarks could harm the trust which must exist between the army and the public."

In Kiyat Arba, deputy local council head Rami Zayid resigned in protest against the condemnation of the rampage by council head Shalom Wach.

## Attorney-General to query Likud men MKs to be asked about Albin

By MENACHEM SHALEV

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The attorney-general is expected to summon two Likud MKs to a "hearing" in the near future, following allegations that they were involved in illicit dealings in connection with the now-defunct Ata factory and its late owner, Mickey Albin, well-placed sources said yesterday.

A hearing before the attorney-general involves a special procedure reserved for public figures against whom a criminal charge sheet is

expected to be presented.

A police investigation completed in June, 1986 found *prima facie* evidence of improprieties committed by the two MKs, as well as by a prominent Likud mayor and two Israel Television personalities. The police file has since been under review by the Tel Aviv District Attorney's Office and was forwarded to the State Attorney's Office in March.

Albin, who was considered a financial wizard prior to the stock market collapse in 1983, fell to his death from a police station window

during an investigation in August 1985. The investigation had centred on allegations of financial crimes in several companies he owned, including Ata. Albin was close to leading figures in the Liberal Party.

In March, MK Ran Cohen (Citizens Rights Movement) alleged that gains from illegal dealings involving Ata amounted to \$180 million. Cohen said that the police investigation had centred on fraud, stock manipulation and embezzlement of government funds.

## Agency-WZO ties 'intolerable'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Arye Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency, yesterday told Zionist leaders that the present relationship between the two bodies was intolerable and that they should either be completely separated or completely unified.

Dulzin's remarks were seen as an effort to get the Zionists to close ranks in preparation for the meeting of the Jewish Agency assembly in two weeks' time. He was addressing a joint meeting of the Zionist Executive, the presidium of the Zionist General Council and heads of Zionist federations from abroad.

## Peres referendum balloon gets scornful reception

By MENACHEM SHALEV

Post Political Reporter

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's proposal to hold a national referendum on an international peace conference was greeted yesterday with scepticism and ridicule across the political spectrum.

Peres, who first raised the idea before a Labour Party forum in Tel Aviv last night, said during a visit to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem yesterday that "if the current government is unable to reach a decision

on such a vital issue, we must bring the issue to the people." Peres said that the referendum idea was being examined by "legal experts" who would present their findings within a few days.

Prime Minister Shamir said that the matter "should be carefully examined" to see if it is applicable in Israel, but added: "We are used to asking the people in elections." Shamir's aides dismissed the idea as "not serious."

Peres did not make it clear

whether his call for a *mish'al am* referred to a referendum, in which the majority opinion is regarded only as a recommendation, or to a plebiscite, the results of which could be binding on legislators.

MK Shulamit Aloni (Citizens Rights Movement) noted that "only a week ago" Peres had opposed the referendum idea.

MK Mordechai Virshupski (Shinui) also dismissed Peres's proposal, saying that it has not been thought

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## Halacha changes on kidney transplants

By JUDY SIEGEL

The recently discovered danger of hypertension in people who donate a kidney for transplantation has turned a former religious commandment into a prohibition in Orthodox communities.

But donating a cadaver's heart or liver — previously forbidden by Jewish law — is now permitted and even mandatory if a life is at stake, according to Rabbi Dr. Moshe Tendler, a microbiologist who is regarded as the foremost medical *Halacha* expert among the modern Orthodox community and parts of the ultra-Orthodox community in the U.S.

Tendler, 61, is chairman of the biology department and professor of medical ethics at New York's Yeshiva University. He is also the son-in-law of the late renowned halachic expert, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein.

Tendler, in Jerusalem for the International Conference on Health Policy, which is being attended by over 100 health experts, presented a paper on the halachic and ethical aspects of transplants.

Jewish law rules according to the risks and benefits of a medical proce-

dure, Tendler told *The Post*. Recent studies have found that a person who donates a kidney tends to develop high blood pressure and subsequent damage to the cardiovascular system.

The success rate of kidney transplants is 65 per cent for organs from cadavers and 85 per cent for those from living donors. However, the risk to the living donor makes it unacceptable halachically. The only exceptions are when the recipient has diabetes or a rare tissue incompatibility, with organs from non-relatives, or when the cadaver kidney does not "take" well.

Until recently, giving a kidney to save a relative's life was regarded as a great *mitzva*, but now it is forbidden in most cases, Tendler said.

Meanwhile, the medical successes in prolonging life with transplanted hearts and livers from cadavers and the near elimination of rejection of these organs with the help of drugs, mean that relatives of a deceased person are "required" to donate a heart or liver to save a life, he continued.

But there is one condition: the

(Continued on Page 4)



Fawa Hall, secretary of Lt. Col. Oliver North, during her second day of testimony at the Iran-Contra hearings in Washington. See story Page 3

## Demjanjuk trial judges hear testimony of camp guard

By ERNIE MEYER

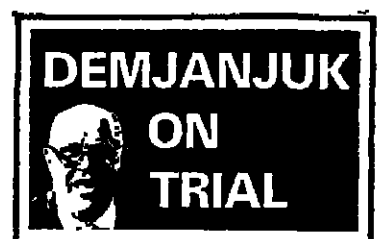
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

BERLIN. — In a unique session in a West Berlin courtroom, the three judges of the Demjanjuk case yesterday heard former Treblinka guard Otto Horn testify that post-war photos of the accused resemble the Ivan (the Terrible) he knew from the camps.

The importance of the photo identification of the accused by a German guard, rather than by Jewish survivors, had induced the judges to travel to Germany rather than rely on a video film of the testimony taken in Berlin.

Only two Israeli journalists, from *Yedioth Aharonot* and *The Jerusalem Post*, and a reporter for the *London Sunday Times*, were in attendance. Other reporters were not admitted, the Associated Press reported.

Judge Hans-Juergen Mueller presided over the hearing. He explained that his function was merely to facilitate the hearing according to German law and to leave the actual questioning to the prosecution and the defence. Since the Israeli judges,



DEMJEANJUK ON TRIAL

Dov Levin, Zvi Tal, and Dalia Dorner, all understand English and German, a translator was only needed for Defence Counsel Mark O'Connor.

Judge Mueller did not swear in witness Horn, 83, but he told him that he need not incriminate himself.

Horn, who is a professional male nurse, was the only one of 12 Germans accused in the 1964 Treblinka trial in Duesseldorf to have been acquitted.

With the outbreak of the war in 1939 he was drafted as a medic into the Wehrmacht. After serving in France, Poland and Russia, he was attached to the T.4 programme, which had administered the euthanasia programme that murdered

some 80,000 mental defectives.

In the summer of 1942 he was sent to the Trawniki training camp for Ukrainian auxiliaries to the SS. From October 1942 until September 1943 he was at Treblinka, staying even after the August 2, 1943 revolt, during which, he said, he was on leave. Following the closure of the camp he was sent to the Trieste area to fight partisans.

Under questioning by prosecutor Michael Horowitz, Horn described the process by which Jews were gassed at Treblinka. He said that he often saw Ivan who as the assistant of German SS man Fritz Schmidt operated the gas chamber.

When asked about the actions of Ivan, Horn said that he had helped Schmidt drive the prisoners into the gas chambers.

He described Ivan as between 1.75 and 1.80m. tall, aged about 23, with a round face and dark blond hair. He said that he never spoke to Ivan, but that he saw him even after the August 23 revolt.

Horn told the judges how he first

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)







שכר ארץ לא יאכל

## Tearful aide defends ex-boss North, admits shredding Iran-Contra papers

WASHINGTON. — Fired White House aide Oliver North's secretary Fawn Hall yesterday made an emotional and spirited defence of her ex-boss under tough questioning at congressional hearings into the Iran-Contra scandal.

Tears welling up in her eyes, the 27-year-old part-time model insisted her activities in destroying potential evidence and smuggling documents out of the White House were done out of fierce loyalty to North, a man she described as "every secretary's dream of a boss."

Asked by congressman Louis Stokes if she was participating in a cover-up in the Iran-Contra affair that has shaken the Reagan presidency, she grew angry, retorting: "I don't use the word cover-up. I use the word protect."

Hall, North's former secretary in the White House National Security Council, seemed to lose her composure briefly in the televised hearings and turned momentarily away from the camera as though to whisper to her lawyer, Plato Catheris, but her lips did not appear to move.

Hall said North had been wrongly portrayed as a zealot in the affair involving secret U.S. arms sales to Iran to help free U.S. hostages in Lebanon

and the diversion of profits to rebels fighting the leftist government of Nicaragua.

"He was not a rogue elephant," she declared. "I don't think he's been portrayed fairly."

The marine officer, who has refused to testify on his role by invoking his Fifth Amendment rights against incrimination, has been widely characterized as a single-minded super-patriot who ran amok with U.S. foreign policy.

Appearing for the second consecutive day under a limited grant of immunity, Hall was led briefly over her dramatic testimony of Monday, recalling that North told her to alter sensitive government documents and helped her shred others as the Iran-Contra affair unravelled on November 21.

She also recounted slipping other documents outside North's sealed offices, and said that Thomas Green — North's lawyer at the time — made no attempt to dissuade her.

She said she "felt a little bit of uneasiness" as she altered four documents, but the moment passed because she believed North wouldn't have asked her to do anything improper.

Asked by Sen. Warren Rudman why she shredded

documents and removed papers from North's office in a surreptitious manner as the Iran-Contra affair was exposed, she replied that she was trying "to protect the initiative."

"Who were you protecting it from?" Rudman asked.

"We were trying to get back the hostages and we were dealing with moderates (in Iran) and ... I just felt there would be a lot of damage done if a lot of top-secret sensitive classified material was exposed in public so the Soviets and everyone else could read it," she said.

"Well it wasn't the KGB that was coming Miss Hall. It was the FBI," replied Rudman, an administration Republican.

Hall said that after North began shredding documents, she decided to begin running her boss' telephone logs and copies of computerized inter-office memos through the shredder.

She did so in part because she needed the space in the office files, she said, but also because they were "revealing as far as conversations between Col. North and other people which I felt in my mind were private."

(Reuters, AP)

## Seoul police brace for today's protests

SEOUL (AP). — Tens of thousands of riot police went on maximum alert yesterday as more than 3,000 suspects were rounded up on the eve of nationwide protests against the ruling party's presidential convention.

"No illegal collective actions will be tolerated and those who lead or take part in violent disturbances will be sternly dealt with," national police chief Kwon Pok-Kyung said in a statement.

Opposition leaders said they would go ahead with peaceful demonstrations in Seoul and at least 18

other cities today to protest President Chun Doo-Hwan's plan to transfer power to his close ally, Roh Tae-Woo.

Thousands of students shouting "down with the military dictatorship" and hurling firebombs and rocks battled yesterday with riot police, who used tear gas and armoured cars to break up protests at several colleges in Seoul.

Peaceful demonstrations were reported at about 35 universities. The National Coalition for a Democratic Constitution, a new

alliance of opposition politicians, religious leaders and human rights activists, has called for massive demonstrations to protest the ruling Democratic Justice Party's presidential convention in Seoul.

Opposition groups want Chun to step down to clear the way for immediate direct democratic elections.

Top police commanders said all security forces had been put on maximum alert and college campuses would be surrounded by riot police today to prevent students from marching into the streets.

## Barbie court witness: hung by her thumbs

LYONS (AFP). — An 80-year-old woman who had her testimony read out yesterday at the trial of former Gestapo chief Klaus Barbie told of how she was questioned hanging by her thumbs, naked, with her teeth broken.

Barbie once again refused to attend the 19th day of his trial here on charges of crimes against humanity. Anne-Marie de Sainte-Marie, who was unable to attend here because of health reasons, was last on a list of witnesses aboard the final deportation train leaving Lyons on August 11, 1944.

A clerk read out her testimony: "During the questioning, I was naked, I was hung by the thumbs, I had my teeth broken."

"I got to know Barbie well. He was a bloodthirsty, drunken character. In the cell where I was, we were ten. When five were sitting, the other five had to stand," she added.

Before the trial, Barbie had described Sainte-Marie's testimony to the prosecution as "rich in imagination," adding, "after 40 years, anyone can say anything." His remarks were also read in court here.

Later yesterday a number of "historical" witnesses connected with the French resistance movement were to testify.

Among these were the niece of the late president de Gaulle, Genevieve de Gaulle-Anthonioz, and Leola Poliakov, who helped found a research centre on contemporary Jewish affairs.

## 'Rust wanted to talk to Gorbachev'

HAMBURG (AP). — Daredevil pilot Matthias Rust may have made his flight to Moscow's Red Square because he wanted to talk about disarmament with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, a Hamburg-published magazine said yesterday.

*Stern* magazine quoted the 19-year-old pilot's parents as saying that Rust had spoken frequently in recent months about Gorbachev's disarmament proposals and said he wanted to discuss them with the Kremlin leader.

"He (Gorbachev) is willing and able to do something but the world doesn't want it. I've simply got to speak with him," *Stern* said Rust's parents, Karl-Heinz and Monika, recalled their son once had said.

When the parents shook their heads at this, *Stern* said, Rust told them, "Just wait. You'll see. You don't have to believe me. But I will give a sign."

## East Berlin rock fans, police clash for 3rd night

EAST BERLIN (AFP). — More than 50 people were arrested here on Monday night when East German police forcibly dispersed a crowd of 4,000 teenagers massed near the Berlin Wall to listen to a rock concert on the Western side.

The youngsters, aged around 15 to 20 had gathered all evening on the Unter den Linden Avenue to listen to the British group Genesis due to perform outside the former German parliament building, the Reichstag, on the other side of the wall.

Police erected barriers to prevent the crowd getting closer than 700 metres to the Wall at the Brandenburg Gate where clashes between police and rock fans had occurred on two previous nights.

At midnight, several hundred police and state security forces armed with clubs moved to clear the

avenue amid jeers and boos from the crowd.

As they were pushed back, the crowd chanted "Down with the Wall" and "Gorbachev, Gorbachev," and sang the Internationale and the German anthem Deutschlandlied.

On Sunday night, some 3,000 young people gathered at the same spot to hear the Eurythmics rock group performing over the Wall. About 20 people were arrested, after clashes in which the crowd threw bottles and beer cans at the police.

Similar incidents occurred on Saturday during a concert by British singer David Bowie.

East Germany's ADN news agency described reports of the clashes as "fantasies invented by a few Western correspondents...for sensationalist purposes."

## Aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster

### Newsman exposes abuses, incompetence

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Senior Ukrainian officials sent their children to rest homes in the Crimea after the Chernobyl accident while keeping local residents in the dark about the radiation danger, according to a Ukrainian journalist.

In a strong indictment of power abuse and incompetence, published in the latest edition of the Soviet monthly *Yunist* (Youth) Yuri Shcherbak gave the most detailed picture to date of the first hours after the nuclear accident on April 26th last year.

Quoting extensively from interviews with residents of Pripjat, the town which housed Chernobyl nuclear power plant workers and their families, he said a policy of secrecy had needlessly exposed thousands of people to excess radiation. He also alleged that firemen, technicians and a doctor sent to the plant after the reactor exploded were not given protective equipment and were not informed

of the massive release of radiation.

Shcherbak, who has written other articles about the accident, said he received a letter from evacuated Chernobyl workers who told him they wanted the "criminal irresponsibility" of Pripjat and Kiev officials to be made public.

The workers said they had been aware of the high radiation levels at the plant and during the day on April 26 had telephoned the Pripjat civil defence office to ask why children were being allowed to play outdoors.

"They answered: 'It's none of your business, a decision will be taken in Moscow,'" the letter said. "Everyone learned only later, on May 3, that a decision to send the children of the top leadership ... to the Crimea had been taken immediately and that the 'chosen' children were sent to sanatoria at the Crimea on May 1."

The evacuation of Pripjat, five km. from the

Chernobyl plant, did not begin until more than 36 hours after the accident.

Meanwhile, the burning reactor was clearly visible, with flames leaping out of its damaged roof, and as the day wore on rumours about radiation began to spread.

A secretary from the Pripjat Community youth organization said teenagers came in to offer their help early in the day but no one knew what to do. Another official said things were the same in the town's Communist Party Committee.

A Pripjat doctor arrived at the plant early on April 26 having been told simply that some people had suffered burns. "We had no geiger counters," Dr. Valentin Belokon told the journalist. "They said there were gas masks and preventive clothes but there weren't any. They weren't wearing them." He also said the door of the plant's medical room was locked.



British diplomat Edward Chaplin with his wife Nicola and her two children on their arrival at Heathrow airport yesterday after being expelled from Iran. (Reuters telephoto)

## UK diplomat Chaplin back home from Iran

By DAVID HOROVITZ  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
LONDON. — Edward Chaplin, the British embassy first secretary at the centre of the diplomatic dispute with Iran, finally arrived at Heathrow Airport yesterday morning with his wife and two young children.

Chaplin, who was beaten up and held captive for 24 hours in Teheran two weeks ago, before being expelled, said that he was relieved to be back but that he had never had any real fears for his safety.

Chaplin's safe return — he had been refused permission to leave Iran by Teheran airport officials on Sunday — served further to cool tempers in the dispute prompted by the arrest on shoplifting charges of the Iranian vice-consul in Manchester Ahmed Ghassemi.

Both countries have now expelled five of each other's diplomats and it

is now thought unlikely that the tit-for-tat feuding will continue.

It is believed, however, that Britain will step up its scrutiny of Iran's arms procurement operation in central London, with officials ascertaining whether the arms purchases comply fully with British export-licensing rules.

It is considered possible — though unlikely — that Britain will actually close down the operation. What is more likely is that Britain will toughen its line on requirements for the Iranian authorities to identify and register staff at the offices.

Iran has three arms-buying offices in London — one for each armed service — employing some 60 people.

With the closure of the Manchester consulate, Iran is left with 19 accredited diplomats in London, rather more than Britain would like, given that it now has only 13 diplomats left in Teheran.

## UK elections — what the papers say

By DAVID HOROVITZ  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
LONDON. — This election campaign has proved a lonely battle for the *Daily Mirror*.

Alone among the mass circulation press, it has championed Labour's cause, yesterday exposing "the dirtiest Tory election campaign of modern times," and accusing front-line Conservatives of campaigning "like passengers fought for seats in the Titanic's lifeboats."

The great rival of the *Mirror* — circulation approximately three million — is, of course, the *Sun*, Britain's biggest-selling daily, with sales of some four million.

Past election days have seen the *Sun* devote its entire front page to such headlines as "Vote for Maggie," and its efforts to have the prime minister tomorrow elected for a third time have been equally unstinting.

Yesterday it revived a two-year old story concerning an operation in a private hospital undergone by the wife of one of Labour's leaders. On Monday, it splashed "Labour Wins"

over half of page one, but then reassured readers: "It's OK folks, it's just a nightmare."

The *Sun* line is echoed, albeit in more subtle fashion, in Britain's other tabloid papers.

The *Star*, with a daily circulation above one-and-a-half million, yesterday came down firmly in the Thatcher camp, opining that, "For

(It is somehow fitting that the *Today* newspaper, still struggling to find its own identity, has failed to advocate support for any particular party, advising readers instead to vote tactically, for the candidate — be he Labour or Alliance — most likely to defeat the Conservative.)

A leader in the *Times* yesterday challenged Neil Kinnock's views on peace and prosperity, and concluded that the Labour leader would make a potentially ruinous prime minister. The *Daily Telegraph* ridiculed Labour's tax calculations, and even the usually aply-named *Independent* took a dig at Labour's "old-fashioned" philosophy before reverting quickly to its customary even-handedness.

The only new public opinion poll yesterday, in the *Guardian*, brought further cheer for the Conservatives, giving them 45 per cent of the vote, compared with Labour's 32 per cent and the Alliance's 21 per cent.

The Tories would undoubtedly fare even better in a poll among the newspapers themselves.



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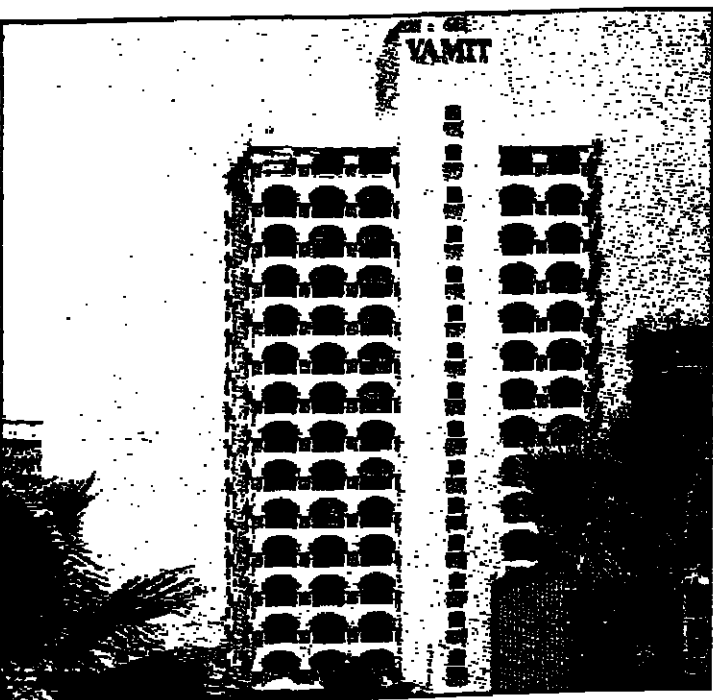
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## Hussein hits powers for growing Gulf role

AMMAN (AP). — King Hussein attacked the superpowers for limiting rather than ending regional conflicts and criticized the growing U.S.-Soviet role in the Gulf.

"The big powers have replaced the United Nations to a great extent" in dealing with the Iran-Iraq war and the Arab-Israeli conflict, Hussein said in a speech to graduates of Jordan's war college last night.

The superpowers, he charged, have chosen the policy of containing the conflicts, not settling them.

The king said the superpowers are involved in a "competition to exploit the situation, either for selling arms or for obtaining hard currency" or for increasing their standing in the region.

He said both Israel and Iran "find the continuation of war a source of profit to them," and accused both of

rejecting peace efforts. The king noted that Israel has rejected his call for a UN-sponsored Middle East peace conference, and for its withdrawal from lands captured in the 1967 war.

"The other party still rejects a stable and just peace and this reveals Israel's belief that time will lead us to concede our rights, or its military might has blinded it to realizing the Palestinian right to freedom, or it is inclined to adopt the Nazi concept of racial discrimination," Hussein said.

He called for "mobilizing the Arab potentials that can compel foreign powers to reconsider their attitudes."

Jordan has rejected American and Israeli calls for bilateral talks with Israel outside of a peace conference. It insists other involved Arab states take part.

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Jerusalem branch adds ideology to night of insults

# Siniora's challenge to Herut

By MENACHEM SHALEV  
Post Political Reporter

It was expected to be a night limited to personal attacks in the intrigue-ridden and volatile Jerusalem branch of Herut. Instead, to their surprise, a hundred or so Herut functionaries spent much of their Monday night meeting in a serious and lively debate on the challenges posed to the party's ideology by Hanna Siniora's decision to stand for election to Jerusalem's municipal council in November 1988.

City Councillor Shlomo Halevi began dramatically by demanding the ouster of branch chief Reuven Rivlin for speaking favourably of Siniora's initiative. The Herutniks, however, were not prepared to consider a palace revolution, and Halevi, who is not a member of the branch's governing bodies, was not even allowed to present his viewpoint.

Most of the speakers concentrated on hitherto undiscussed aspects of Herut's demand to annex Judea and Samaria, specifically, on what would be the political rights of the more than one million Arabs who would find themselves in Israel's political system.

"We would be overjoyed to discover one morning that the Arabs had decided to go and live in Mecca," said MK Ehud Olmert, "but we will not employ violence and provocation like Kahane. So the question is, how do we meet the challenge?"

"Siniora should be put to the test," said Olmert. "I am not sure that his PLO masters will accept his



Reuven (Rubi) Rivlin and Yehoshua Matza.



(Pleskow, Harari)

move, which we will promote as an acceptance of Israeli sovereignty over a united Jerusalem."

Yitzhak Hanegbi, the prime minister's bureau chief, took a harsher line towards Siniora. But he also stressed that the principle of "Judea and Samaria forever" requires a state in which Jews and Arabs are equal under the law.

Siniora must be fought in every possible way, said Hanegbi, including by amendments to existing laws. Siniora's newspaper, *Al Fajr*, Hanegbi added, publishes daily incitement against Zionism and steadfastly supports terrorists. Siniora had "legitimized a terrorist act which turned Ofra Moses into a living torch," he said.

Dan Nevehi, an aide to Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens, stressed that Arabs should be integrated into Israel's political system.

But he also maintained that East Jerusalem "has become the Middle East capital of the PLO." The authorities should establish if Siniora is a member of the PLO, Naveh said. If so, "is he allowed to even live in Jerusalem?" he said.

MK Yehoshua Matza, Rivlin's arch rival in the Jerusalem branch, held that Siniora's move presents a "terrible danger" because his aim is to undermine Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem. Matza has proposed that the law requiring that Jerusalem's mayor be an Israeli citizen be extended to include city councillors.

Siniora's election could turn Jerusalem into a "second Belfast," Matza said. A grenade would explode in the capital, "Jewish blood would be spilt" and a city councillor would praise the act, Matza added. "Who will be able to prevent the Jews from committing acts of vengeance?"

Temper flared periodically between supporters of Rivlin and the rival Matza-Halevi group. Threats and insults were traded. "I'll throw you out of the window, you rag," said one. "Sit down and shut up, you camel," countered another.

Rivlin, who had already aroused resentment among Jerusalem's Herutniks by claiming that it was impossible to compete against the "legend" of Teddy Kollek, said that he was only concerned with the significance of Siniora's act.

"If we don't know how to take up the gauntlet thrown down by Siniora, then we aren't worth anything," Rivlin boomed. "We can't tell the Arabs that they have rights and then refuse to implement them."

Turning to his inner branch rivals, Rivlin said that some of them "would rather have Siniora as mayor than me."

The prevailing opinion among the backbenchers was that Siniora should be encouraged. "It will only work in favour of the Likud," they said.

The Herutniks dismissed any notion of a coup against Rivlin and unanimously adopted a resolution favouring Arab participation in the political process; but they also called on the police and the security services to examine Siniora's PLO credentials and to take appropriate legal action.

At least one Herutnik was disappointed. "I came here for action," he said disgustedly. "I thought knives would be drawn. All I got was talk."

## Proposal under fire - Benvenisti: He won't run

Post Middle East Staff  
and Agencies

Hanna Siniora's announcement that he intends to lead a Palestinian list in the 1988 Jerusalem municipal elections has come under fire from a Jordanian newspaper and from hardline Palestinians.

George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Palestine Communist Party both condemned the move in statements issued Sunday in Damascus.

According to the Agence France Presse, they described the East Jerusalem editor's move as a deviation from the "nationalist" Palestinian platform. No true "nationalist" could cooperate in any way with the "occupation authorities," the statements said.

Meanwhile, the Jordanian newspaper *Sawt al-Sha'ab* said on Sunday that Siniora's proposal amounted to a surrender of Arab claims to East Jerusalem and the Arab demand for control of its holy places. The paper's statement was carried by Radio Jordan.

**Andy Court adds:** Meron Benvenisti, head of the West Bank Data Project, predicted in an interview in Jerusalem on Monday.

While Siniora tried to articulate an important option for the Palestinians, Benvenisti believes: "He has no following. It's premature. This should not be considered a concrete political act at all. It should be perceived only in the context of a general philosophical-political question."

Siniora's step is important, Benvenisti said, because it suggests something that both Jews and Arabs have not yet been prepared to accept: the situation has gone beyond the point where some "external" solution can somehow successfully separate the two sides. Thus the only solution will arise through an internal, "inter-communal" conflict.

"People are not ready to admit that this is it: two million Palestinians will have to find some kind of political expression, not by acts of terrorism, or by trying to use the peace process," Benvenisti said. "It's too early."

Palestinian nationalist strategy has always embraced abstention from the existing political system, Benvenisti said. Thus Arabs from

relatively affluent areas like Beit Hanina and Shuafat don't vote in Jerusalem elections while working-class Arabs of Silwan and Beit Safsa, who are dependent on the city for their jobs, tend to vote.

Abstention is an act of political consciousness for an [affluent] Arab in Jerusalem, he said.

Benvenisti believes that it will take at least another generation for Arab attitudes to change, and only then will Jews have to face up to the choice: democracy or a "pure" Jewish state.

"When the Arabs stop being abstentionist - and that will happen - it will be much more difficult to educate the Jewish population," he said, "because they know that the Arabs abstain, and they rely on that."



BACK TO SCHOOL. - Vice Premier Shimon Peres attends a lecture at the Rothberg School for Overseas Students at the Hebrew University's Mount Scopus campus. (Y. Zaken, Media)

## Warsaw Ghetto hero loses job in Poland

By ALEXANDER ZVIELLI

Special to The Jerusalem Post  
The Polish authorities have fired Dr. Marek Edelman, an innovative heart surgeon and cardiologist, from his post at Lodz Hospital.

He has received a letter stating that his contract with the hospital expires on August 31 and will not be renewed.

Edelman, 66, a supporter of Solidarity who has been arrested a number of times because of his involvement with the organization, maintains that his dismissal was politically motivated.

He was one of the founders of the Warsaw Ghetto Fighters' Organization and was second-in-command of the ghetto uprising.

After the ghetto was razed to the ground he escaped through the city sewers and joined the Polish underground.

Edelman has appealed to world Jewry to limit contacts with the Polish government. He has also asked Jews to refrain from making pilgrimages to Warsaw to commemorate the ghetto uprising, as he sees the uprising as a struggle for human rights that are being violated by the present regime.

He says he hopes that world opinion and the cardiologists now meeting at an international conference in Jerusalem will bring pressure to bear on the Polish authorities to reconsider their decision.

Edelman's wife, Ala, his son and his married daughter live in Paris. He is afraid that, if he were to visit them, the authorities would not let him return to Poland. Apparently he still regards his life in Poland as a national mission. Edelman has been given permission to appeal to the Polish labour court.



A rare imperial eagle with a leg band from Czechoslovakia shown flying over the western Negev a few months ago after being captured and released by officials of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. Local officials immediately notified nature protection officials in Czechoslovakia of the sighting. Stefan Danko, the Czech raptor expert who tagged the bird, responded with a letter of commendation and a picture of the bird as a nestling. Danko commended the Israeli effort to protect migrating birds of prey and expressed the hope that the two countries could cooperate to prevent their extinction. Last winter, SPNI officials sighted 10-15 pairs of eagles flying over Israel on their way south for the winter. (Text: Judy Siegel, Photos: Bill Clark, Stefan Danko)

## 'Designer' chamber music

By LEV BEARFIELD

The ensemble consists of keyboards, wind instruments, a vocalist and a "sound designer."

Well, if we have designer jeans, why not designer music? In a sense, there isn't any other kind. But in the very special case of the Philip Glass Ensemble, the sound designer coordinates and processes the players, the singer, the three synthesizers, the 200 computer programmes and the half-ton of electronic equipment required to produce what the founder of the group calls "amplified chamber music."

As of yesterday morning, sound designer Kurt Munkacsi had already checked out the Mt. Scopus amphitheatre in preparation for last night's opening concert and was confident that all would go well. "The only thing that might bother us," he told us, "is the wind up there. But I think we have ways of dealing even with that."

Glass meanwhile was busy stressing the human element in his work. "Although my compositions involve a lot of technological elements," he said, "I do compose primarily with the players in mind. A few decades ago it was predicted that we would be attending concerts performed solely by machines. But in fact audiences like to watch players play, and playing is a joy for the performers. So I'm very much concerned about putting the musician back into the music."

That's a comforting sentiment from a composer who suffered years of derision before reaching the international popularity that he enjoys today. Glass of course remains controversial with many. He has been accused of purveying monotonous compositions more conducive to meditation (or just nodding off) than to serious listening; of abandoning his classical training to go slumming in jazz and pop; of being too eclectic and too electric. And in view of his numerous lengthy operatic and

theatre pieces (*Einstein on the Beach*, *Satyagraha*, *Akhnaton*, etc.), Glass has also been charged with simply writing too much.

The 50-year-old American composer acknowledged the accusations with an easy smile, and suggested that the proof is in the hearing. "Our ensemble consists of what we do about 50 a year," he said, "allow us to present some of my music where for whatever reason we can't do a full opera. Here in Israel we're doing a selection of things from the past 12 years, some written especially for the ensemble and some transcriptions from the larger theatre works. It should give the

audience a good sampling. And I really enjoy this framework. I'm part of a generation that reacted against composers who cut themselves off from the public."

The composer for whom Glass most readily expressed appreciation was John Cage, whom he called "still the cutting edge of modern composition. I once told John that I was one of his children, whether he likes it or not."

Glass, however, has achieved a much wider audience than Cage ever did, and shows no signs of slowing down. Future projects include operas based on Doris Lessing's *Shikama* novels, *The Fall of the House of Usher* and *The War of the Worlds*. Festival director Oded Kotler added that negotiations are under way for the presentation of Glass's *The Arabian Nights* at the 1989 Israel Festival.

Street theatre today: Yossi Tzema's troupe presents the minimalist play *Place and Friends* at the Gerard Behar Plaza at 4 p.m.; Eldad Ziv's acting company performs *Ain Zo, Ben Zo*, a surrealist play, outside the President Hotel at 8 and 10 p.m.; the Pyramid children's theatre presents *Alce in Magdalen* at the Henry Crown Plaza at 5, 6 and 7 p.m.; the video-art "Bus" leaves the Henry Crown Plaza at 4 and 6 p.m. The Israel Museum offers its multi-event "Musiron" beginning at 4 p.m. and featuring "Cantilena-Plus Vocal" at 8 p.m.

## HALACHA AND TRANSPLANTS

(Continued from Page One)

doctors must remove the organ with the utmost respect for the dead, and preferably under rabbinical supervision, using the same procedures that apply to a living patient. The ruling adds that with modern transplantation facilities, distances should not cancel the obligation to donate an

Tendler is disturbed by opposing rulings by the ultra-Orthodox Eida Hareidit community that heart and liver transplants are "murder" as the donor's heart remains beating until the organ is removed. He notes that the head of that community, Rabbi Yitzhak Yehuda Weiss, consulted with Rabbi Feinstein some 10 years ago about whether a family is obliged to contribute the organs of a deceased member, even if the idea of "mutilation" in such an operation causes the family anguish. Feinstein responded that the giving of a life should ease any anguish felt.

Despite this response, Weiss in the past year has denounced the government's authorization of heart and liver transplants here. And suddenly, after Feinstein's death, Agudat Yisrael in the U.S., fearing the extreme ultra-Orthodox, attacked his ruling citing "brain death" as the criterion to determine when death occurs.

"If these rabbis had gone to a hospital to see brain death cases, watched a post-mortem and done their homework, yet nevertheless ruled against brain death, I would disagree but respect their ruling," Tendler said. "But if they ruled without studying the subject thoroughly, I cannot respect it." He added that Feinstein ruled on brain death as the moment of death after reviewing 100 brain-death cases and meeting with top neurologists. "And he issued his ruling only after two years of study."

With today's sophisticated instruments, it is easy to determine the

moment of death, he continued, by injecting a radioisotope to see if blood flow has stopped below the base of the brain. If it has, the person is dead even if his heart is still beating, he said.

When organs are donated for transplantation, a Jew has no priority over a non-Jew, says Tendler. "Priorities in allocating organs must be established solely on the basis of medical suitability and then either by random selection or on a first-come-first-served basis. Any criteria based on social worth threaten the ethical foundations of a democratic society."

While donated organs are practically unavailable in Israel, because of rabbinical opposition, lack of coordination among hospitals, and inadequate public education, more and more religious American Jews are willing their organs for transplant, adding the clause "with my rabbi's approval" to their donor cards.

Other topics raised at the conference, organized by Tel Aviv University in association with Brandeis University and the Universities of North Carolina and Pittsburgh, included care of the ageing, health insurance, handling Aids, and financing hospice care for the terminally ill.

## Lufthansa takes Israeli musicians on European tour

Seven young Israeli musicians have left Israel for a European concert tour organized, sponsored and paid for by Lufthansa Airlines.

The tour features Shira Rabin, Roy Shiloah, Hagai Shaham (violin), Efrat Schechter (flute), Yaron Taub, Shlomi Shemtov (piano) and Yaniv Aloni (viola) in five European cities: Milan, Zurich, Antwerp, Frankfurt and Rolandseck near Bonn.

The tour aims to present young Israeli talents to a selected European public, consisting of the Jewish community, members of the press, important travel agents and public personalities in the various cities.

## Property crime lower after crackdown

HAIFA (Itim). - Fewer property crimes have been reported here since the arrest of 61 people over the past fortnight in a crackdown against suspected burglars, pickpockets and recipients of stolen property, police said yesterday.

Previously, an average of 30 break-ins a day were reported.

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## MEETING OF THE PLENARY OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION THE PRESIDUM OF THE ZIONIST GENERAL COUNCIL CHAIRMEN OF ZIONIST FEDERATIONS

Wednesday, June 10, 1987 - 13 Shvan 5747  
9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. - 4-7 p.m.

Weizmann Hall

### AGENDA:

World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency - Future of Relationship  
Opening remarks: Arye L. Dulzin, Chairman, Zionist Executive  
Proposals of Functional and Organizational Reforms in the World Zionist Organization  
Opening remarks: Prof. Izak Warszawski, Head, Organization Department

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# The occupants under the occupation

AFTER 20 YEARS of occupation it is legitimate to ask those Palestinians living under Israeli occupation how they themselves relate to the Palestine problem.

At this juncture, it is appropriate to recall some not-too-recent history. The core of the Palestine problem is not the relatively recent occupation of those parts of Palestine commonly called the West Bank and Gaza Strip which escaped Israeli conquest in 1948. The British occupation of Palestine 70 years ago, its severance from Syria, and the adoption of the Balfour Declaration were the first steps in a process that culminated in thwarting the universally accepted aspirations for national self-determination and independence.

By 1948, there was a solidly entrenched Jewish presence in Palestine, totally independent of "Arab Palestine." The Arab defeat of 1948 was a consequence of the failure of the Arab Palestinian national movement to inflict a decisive defeat on British imperialism in an earlier decade, and was the price paid for the failure to perceive British imperialism as the main enemy of the Palestinian Arab people from the very start of the British occupation of Palestine.

The outcome of 1948 was the dispersal of the Palestinian people to various Arab countries, and the annexation of the remaining Arab-inhabited parts of Palestine by Transjordan. In the 19-year interval before the second Arab defeat in 1967, the Jordanian regime assiduously strove to Jordanize its Palestinian subjects, who also happened to be the majority of the country's inhabitants.

In the surrounding Arab states, the Palestinians were unwelcome guests, restricted to their camps, and living at the mercy of the interna-

tional charitable organizations. Throughout those years the Arab regimes kept alive the promise of "the liberation" which appeared to connote the restoration of an idealized and mythical past, but which was never translated into a meaningful political or military programme. Since 1967 and the emergence of a relatively independent Palestinian national movement, the main brunt of the struggle has been borne by Palestinians living outside Palestine itself. What emerged was a national movement in exile — to be sure, not in exile from its people, as more than half the Palestinian people live in the diaspora — but beyond the borders of Palestine itself.

Initially the re-emergent national movement carried on with the old slogan of "liberation," later modified to the "secular democratic state." Since 1974, its declared aim has been the establishment of a "national entity," commonly understood to mean a state in the West Bank and Gaza. While the promise of liberation has not been totally discarded, a consensus has formed as to its indefinite postponement to a "time beyond time." More recently, after the departure from Beirut in 1982, the diplomatic road has been adopted as signified by the Amman Accord and the attempt to enlist the Egyptian regime in winning American endorsement for Palestinian national rights. The international conference is now viewed as being the prime mechanism for realizing the latter.

The declared aim of the Palestinian national movement has become one of terminating the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, or in the fashionable terminology used after the 1967 war, "liquidating the effects of the aggression." Thus today, national self-determination and the legitimate rights of the Palestinians



The stifling of political activity in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, says Dr. Musa Budeiri from Bir Zeit University, has led to the emergence of a media-created leadership group, the Palestinian 'notables.'

have been condensed to the ending of Israeli occupation in the most recently occupied part of Palestine.

BUT WHAT ABOUT those Palestinians living under occupation? What is their specific role? Forgotten till the mid-Seventies, their role since then has consisted of remaining "steadfast." The term itself seems to suggest that the natural order of things requires that because of the occupation and all that it entails, the occupied should pack up and leave for a safer haven. Thus the mere act of not leaving their homes is deemed sufficient contribution to the Palestinian national movement, and its demand for self-determination and national independence.

As occupations go, 20 years is a long time, and some soul-searching seems to be in order. An arbitrary opening is provided by posing the question of the way Palestinians under occupation relate to the occupation. Alternatively, we might evaluate the price Israel is paying for occupying a land inhabited by a million and a half Arabs who are perceived to be hostile and are treated accordingly.

Official Israeli policy from the very first days of the occupation, when Moshe Dayan instituted the "open bridges," has been to lighten

the economic burden of the occupation, to retain contact with Jordan, creating de facto a joint Israeli-Jordanian condominium in the West Bank, and to allow the inhabitants to continue running their own affairs in all spheres of activity not related to security (a broad term including land, water, movement of agriculture, produce, etc.). The Jordanian civil service in the West Bank was integrated into the machinery of the occupation and now forms part of the so-called Israeli civil administration.

Economic necessity forced a large part of the labour force to seek employment in Israel, mainly in the service and agricultural sectors. With earning rates considerably below those of Israeli workers, bereft of job security, and excluded from the official Israeli trade union structure, this layer of semi- and unskilled labourers has managed to keep its head above water. Notwithstanding the important role they perform in the Israeli economy, they are outsiders in the system, unorganized and consequently with no political clout. They are totally absent from the political scene as actors.

If the media are to be believed, the active political players among the Palestinians in the occupied territories, and increasingly so since the

1982 exodus from Beirut, are the advocates of the "last coach of the last train" and of the necessity of securing passage aboard. These are the "notables," an anachronistic term which sits uneasily in the last quarter of the century but which recurs with monotonous regularity in the Hebrew and Western press. No longer signifying a stratum of semi-feudal landlords, officials and heads of family clans, it is currently employed to denote an emergent class of businessmen — commonly mistaken for businessmen — as well as doctors, lawyers, academics, journalists and government functionaries.

Following the 1982 war in Lebanon, the foreign and Israeli media have focused on this "new leadership," which seems to be independent of any kind of political movement or grassroots organization, hence perhaps the aptness of the term "notables." In tandem with the old "notables" of the Jordanian regime, they have come to regard the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip as the quintessence of the Palestine problem. Thus legitimate national rights and national self-determination are reduced to countering the threat of land expropriation and the expansion of settlements, the closure of

the universities, restrictions on movement and travel, and the withholding of export licences for agricultural products via the open bridges to Jordan.

This old-new "leadership" receives its legitimacy from one of two sources and sometimes from both at the same time: the Jordanian regime, as a result of its newly-formed alliance with the main body of the Palestinian national movement, and the Israeli occupation. Their status grows with the influx of "steadfastness funds" which amount to an undeclared subsidy of the occupied areas. Also responsible is the manipulation of the media, both Israeli and foreign, which never tires of looking for proof that there must exist a local political leadership capable of speaking for the Palestinians in the occupied territories and distinct from the PLO.

IT IS NOT necessary to dwell on the economic cost of the occupation, as it has been amply demonstrated elsewhere, and not least by Israelis, that the occupation is a profitable enterprise for the Israeli economy, and promises to become more so if the various development schemes announced by the Jordanians in addition to U.S. and Western European efforts to "improve the conditions of life" in the occupied territories, bear fruit.

On the "security" level, Israeli standards of how an occupied people should behave somewhat cloud the issue. Yet despite the uproar created by isolated terrorist incidents involving loss of civilian life (which are to be condemned not merely because they are politically counterproductive, but primarily on the human level), there is little doubt that the West Bank and Gaza (except the latter for a relatively short period

early on in the occupation) have proved quite easy to control.

There is no need to accept the Israeli gauge of the occasional stone-throwing as portending the mass upheaval which will threaten Israel's existence, and on which Israeli propaganda thrives. In point of fact, Palestinians under occupation have not exhibited a strong sense of national solidarity in the face of selective Israeli punitive measures such as the demolition of houses, the imposition of collective punishment on villages, deportation and the expropriation of land. The fact that the economic life of the territories is so closely intertwined with that of Israel cannot be discounted as a factor of primary importance. The emerging stratum of merchants and professionals who claim to represent the Palestinians are dependent for their well-being on official Israeli goodwill and on performing the role of middlemen between Israeli producers and Palestinian consumers.

On the political level, the stifling of all political activity at the grass roots, the continued harassment of women's associations, trade unions, youth groups, the banning of the Palestinian National Front in the mid-Seventies, and its successor, the National Guidance Committee, has left the field free for the growth of a leadership which owes its pre-eminence to the weakening of the Palestinian national movement after the 1982 war.

The continued support it receives from Jordan and certain quarters within the PLO, and the attention its individual members receive from official Israeli quarters, whether in the granting of special privileges or in summing up for consultations, enhances their stature as the "authentic Palestinians" with whom Israel, if and when the time is ripe, might be able to do business.

## Nasser's 1967 suicide thoughts

Ya'acov Lamdan

EGYPT'S political leaders planned to commit collective suicide after the Six Day War, Egypt's chief propagandist in 1967 revealed recently.

Ahmed Sa'id, the former director of Egypt's Voice of Arabia radio station, whose voice daily resounded from Cairo threatening to wipe Israel off the face of the earth, recently broke his silence about the functioning of Egyptian leaders on the eve of and during the Six Day War.

Speaking to the press for the first time since the war, Sa'id gave some astounding details about what went on at the time in the offices of Nasser and of his chief deputy and head of the military, Field Marshal Amar. The most sensational revelation was the planned collective suicide.

Sa'id, who on June 5, 1967 informed the Arab world that Egypt had brought down 67 Israeli airplanes and that Egyptian forces were on the verge of throwing Israel into the sea, also said that Egypt had planned to go to war at noon on May 22, and that he had been instructed to incite the masses during his broadcast.

But on the morning of May 22, he was told that Egypt had decided not to attack for fear of American intervention. Nevertheless, he was "to cause a storm" on the radio.

Sa'id also spoke of both the open and latent rivalry between Nasser and Amar during the days preceding the war, a struggle in which Amar succeeded in winning new influence and authority due to the support he found in the army.

According to Sa'id, it was Amar who pushed Nasser into the decision to force the UN forces to withdraw from Sinai, by announcing this step on a visit to India in mid-May. When the wire services relayed the announcement, Sa'id phoned Nasser's office and asked for instructions: should Amar's statement be broadcast? He was told that the item would not be aired on Egyptian radio. However, the next day, the president's office released an official report to the effect that Egypt had directed its UN representative to meet with the UN secretary-general and ask him to remove the UN forces from Sinai.

SAID RECALLED the events of June 5: "Before noon, reports arriving from foreign news agencies and broadcasting stations stated that the Egyptian air force had been destroyed and the Egyptian army in Sinai had been left without an aerial umbrella.

"We were helpless in view of the leaders' complete silence after the initial announcement by the military spokesman that we had downed 67 Israeli planes. All our efforts to find

a responsible authority to guide us failed.

"Though the picture which emerged from the news agencies was utterly black, we continued to broadcast the military spokesman's statement about the Israeli planes every few minutes. But in the radio's newsroom, there was pandemonium. The editors and broadcasters split into two groups, one believing the military spokesman, and the other the news agencies."

Where, Sa'id asks, did all the Egyptian leaders disappear that day? He gives the following answer:

On the day before the war, a high-level Iraqi delegation arrived in Egypt to congratulate it on expelling UN forces and closing down the Straits of Tiran. On the morning of June 5, Field Marshal Amar took the delegation up in a military plane for an aerial survey of the nine Egyptian divisions preparing for war in the Sinai peninsula.

But at that very moment, the Israeli attack on Egyptian airports was in full swing and all the landing strips were inoperable. Amar and his guests remained in the air for hours, hoping to find an airport at which to land.

Finally, he returned to Cairo and headed straight for military headquarters, where he found Nasser trying to salvage whatever possible. Amar dashed into the headquarters, followed by several of his men who all tried to fill him in on the situation. An angry exchange took place between Amar and Nasser — according to Sa'id who received his information from eyewitnesses — with Nasser blaming Amar for the catastrophe that had befallen the Egyptian army. At the end of the stormy discussion, Nasser stomped out, saying: "Do whatever you can. If you need me, I'll be at home."

The next day, the Soviet leaders contacted Nasser and asked him about the situation of the Egyptian forces in Sinai. They offered to call for a cease-fire at the Security Council, but Nasser turned down the suggestion. Nasser and Amar, Sa'id said, couldn't conceive that the Egyptian commanders in Sinai would fold so quickly, some of them returning to Cairo to save their skins, with such indifference and in the hope that even in the event of a military defeat, Nasser would still score a victory — as had been the case in the Suez campaign in 1956.

Nevertheless, Sa'id and his colleagues at the radio station continued to believe that the Egyptian leaders still had a card to play that would change the situation drastically. This belief was based on the contact which had been made between the minister of national guidance, Mohammed Fa'ik, and the military command on the second day of the war. The command assured us that our military forces were in a good position, and that there was no call for anxiety. The radio propaganda therefore took this line.

"There was talk at the time of a 'second front' in Sinai, near the passes, but this line too soon collapsed, at which point Nasser appealed to the Soviets to speed up the resolution process at the Security Council."

THE COLLAPSE of the army, Sa'id said, destroyed various myths as well



Ahmed Sa'id, Egypt's chief propagandist in the Six Day War.

as the image of the leadership. Based on information he gleaned from one of Nasser's deputies at the time, Abdel Latif Bagdadi, who was present at the meeting of the top brass, Egypt's leaders decided on collective suicide.

"After Israel penetrated deep into Sinai, and won the battle over the passes, the free officers — who had ousted King Farouk in 1952 — all arrived, at Nasser's home for consultation."

The situation appeared very grave, especially in light of the fear that Israel would not content itself with conquering Sinai, but would cross the Suez Canal. The revolutionary council, according to Sa'id, adopted two decisions. The first was to dispatch one of its members, Zacharia Mohieddin, to Ismailiya to round up and organize the remnants of the forces that had managed to cross the canal, in an attempt to establish a defence line against the Israelis should they cross the Suez.

The second decision requires some explanation. The Revolutionary Council saw the defeat suffered by the Egyptian army — which had only days before threatened to conquer Israel and throw the Jews into the sea — as a critical blow to the honour of the Egyptian and Arab armies. To defend this honour, they felt that the top military echelon, i.e. the entire Revolutionary Council, had to commit suicide to teach future generations that the officers of the revolution had paid with their lives for their country's military downfall. This decision was enthusiastically endorsed by all present and it was agreed that the Revolutionary Council, led by Nasser and Amar, would journey to the front to commit the deed.

Still quoting Bagdadi, Sa'id added that after the decision was adopted, then prime minister Ali Sabri entered the room. He had come straight from the Soviet Embassy and reported that the USSR had decided to press for a Security Council-imposed cease-fire. Thus, the chances of Israel crossing the Suez Canal were almost nil.

In that case, Nasser said, there was no point in committing suicide. Thought should be given, he added, to the question of who was to run the country in the absence of the Revolutionary Council. There was a danger that the enemies of the revolution would simply take over again.

Nasser's retreat from the decision on suicide angered the free officers and passions ran high. Nasser claimed that it was a question of responsibility. Three of the council members — Bagdadi, Kamal-Dis Hussein and Hassan Ibrahim — told Nasser that there was no longer any reason for them to stay. The three went to Bagdadi's home.

In conclusion, Sa'id noted that the fact that Nasser himself had actually contemplated suicide illustrates the utter deterioration of the situation and that there was nothing left to save, apart from Egyptian honour.

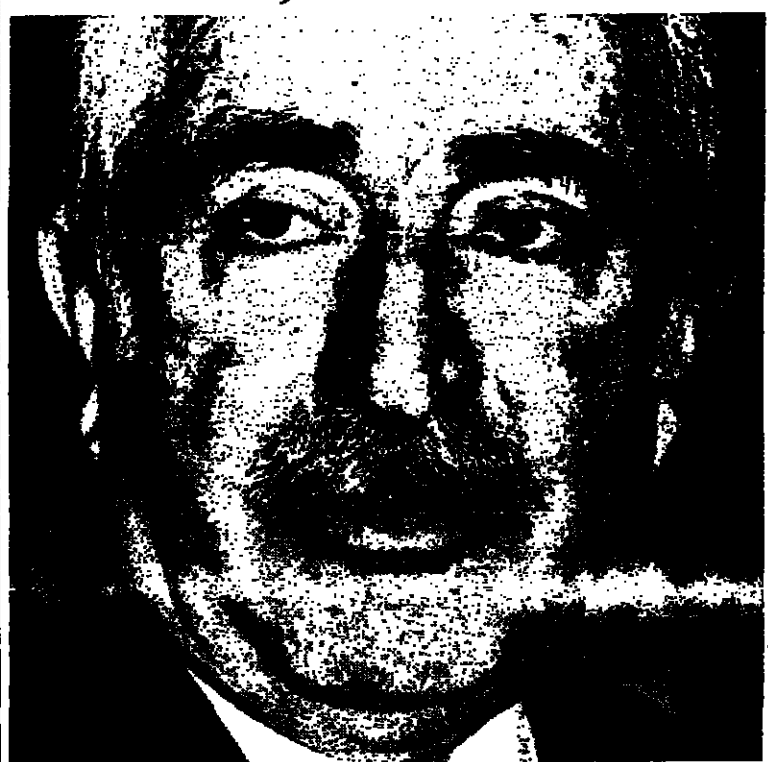
The Middle East page is edited by Yehuda Litani.

THE MURDER last week of Rashid Karamah, Lebanon's prime minister for all seasons, also killed what hopes remained of a united country. As he had no personal enemies, the bomb planted in his helicopter appears to have been aimed less at him than at Lebanon himself.

Some Moslems blame his death on Israeli secret service agents inside the Maronite camp, anxious to keep

the country divided. Some Christians, less plausibly, suggest that Syria killed him for his refusal to endorse its anti-PLO policy.

Members of both communities believe pro-Iranian Shi'ites were responsible because Karamah was



## Cheating galore

Bahgat Badie/Cairo

TEACHERS ARE beaten up, examination papers are stolen, outsiders loudspeakers broadcast answers to the students sitting exams — all this is part of cheating scandals that have been exposed in some Egyptian schools.

The scandal came to light when an examination committee in the Nile Delta town of al-Husseiniya charged that parents banded together to give exam answers to their intermediate schoolchildren, aged 12 to 15. This precipitated examination committees in several other towns into breaking their silence and making similar complaints.

There is no accurate indication of how many schools have been affected by collective cheating, but cases were reported by Education Ministry officials from schools in several parts of the crowded Nile Delta and Nile Valley — indicating the problem was widespread in rural areas. Teachers have admitted that they have turned a blind eye to mass cheating for fear of violence.

"We teachers say our prayers every morning before going to examinations because we don't know whether we will return home safely or be carried to hospital on stretchers," said tutor Hani Tadros. In al-Husseiniya, a man broke into a schoolroom where students were sitting an exam, snatched a question paper and ran out. Within minutes, answers to the questions were being broadcast into the room from loudspeakers outside. A few minutes later thugs broke into the school and distributed model answers to the students.

Investigations in other areas revealed that some teachers, even principals, have been involved in widespread cheating. Education Ministry officials said. Cheating and intimidation of examiners on this scale have been going on for years, a teacher noted.

Education Minister Ahmed Fathi Sorour promised swift action over the Husseinia case and said he was "appalled by the phenomenon of parents encouraging their sons to cheat, in other words to steal."

The provincial director of education has since been fined and four teachers have been suspended. Examination papers of students who wrote similar answers were cancelled.

Sorour said in a newspaper interview that the case underscored the need for serious revision of Egypt's education system, which critics say is outdated and inadequate. While he was speaking marauders were being set up for millions of students to sit high school exams in June. Like previous generations of students most will simply have memorized set books and teachers' notes. Critics say the system does not recognize the need for students to understand the material they are taught.

A university degree is the minimum required for a white-collar job and a student's future hinges, throughout his 12 years at school, on his aggregate exam marks.

He and his parents are under pressure to score as high as possible — hence the temptation to cheat. Critics say that free education for all since the overthrow of the monarchy in 1952, and a school building programme that lags behind a population growth of one million every 10 months, have resulted in sliding standards. Classrooms are over-crowded, teachers' salaries are low, and many moonlight as private tutors to boost their income and help their students over the exam hurdles.

"I cannot communicate with the students any longer," says primary school teacher Karam Fathi. "How can I establish intimate relationships when a classroom, made for 20 is packed with 80?" (Rester)

## Hopes die with Karamah

Patrick Seale

wedded to the old Lebanese formula of compromise and opposed to an Islamic State.

The mystery remains total. Previously unknown fundamentalists have claimed responsibility, but the fact that wildly contradictory explanations can be entertained is a sign of the extent to which Lebanon has become the battleground for other people's wars.

No doubt the Lebanese could have ended their 12-year-old troubles long ago if they had lived in a vacuum. But last week's 20th anniversary of the Six Day War is a reminder that, by conquering the whole of Palestine, Israel exported the Palestinian problem to Lebanon.

THREE great struggles are being waged on Lebanese soil.

First is the contest between Israel and Syria, each of which considers Lebanon vital to its security. A Lebanon controlled by Syria is a hot-house of Palestinian nationalism.

Second is the struggle between the West Bank and Syria, led by Israel as a gun at Syria's head. A second struggle ravaging Lebanon is that of the Shi'ites for their place in the sun. They are the largest single community and, with the bit now between their teeth, are determined never again to be pushed to

the margin by Maronites and Sunnis as they were under the old Lebanese system.

The awakening of the Shi'ites is not confined to Lebanon. Arab society as a whole is confronted with the tricky, highly sensitive problem of adjusting the balance between newly militant Shi'ites and traditionally dominant Sunnis.

In Iraq, too, Shi'ites are the largest single community but power is in Sunni hands — one reason for the virulence of the Iraq-Iran war. Victory for Iran could change the nature of the Iraqi state and alter the Sunni/Shi'ite pecking order throughout the region.

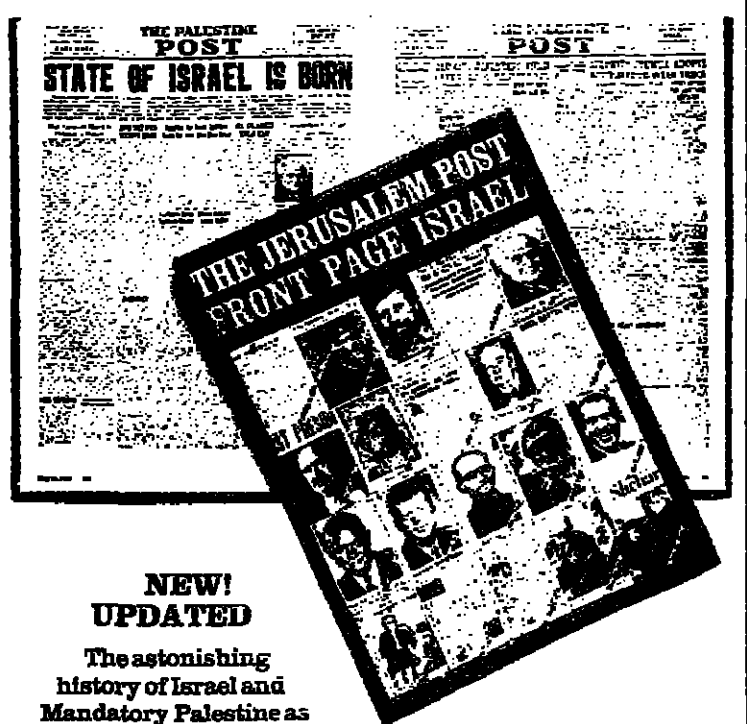
The Iraq-Iran war is also the third great conflict which involves Lebanon. Unlike the shah, the ayatollahs have the means to intervene directly in Arab affairs through friends and proxies. The taking of Western hostages like Terry Waite, or the Americans and Frenchmen he was attempting to release, is the work of Iran's friends, done to cut off Western support for Iraq.

Iranian pressure, either by proxy or directly can be expected to intensify.

Western protection for Iraqis ally, Kuwait. This, rather than the Manchester shoplifting charge against an Iranian official, is the background to the maltreatment of the British diplomat Edward Chapman in Tehran. (Observer News Service)

## THE NEWS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD, 1932-1987

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# And no justice for all



# Look 'em in the eye

Doron Pely

WHILE THE idea of a helicopter-in-front-of-every-house remains a futuristic vision, the one-time dream of computers has become a regular feature of our lives.

But the advent of computers has brought with it a plethora of complaints about real and imagined health problems, ranging from headaches to birth defects. Scientists today say the origins of most problems can be traced to the eyes of the users and to working conditions.

Workers who spend long hours every day in front of computer terminals often complain of burning and itchy eyes, headaches, and blurred and double vision.

According to Professor Michael Belkin, director of the Eye Research Institute at Tel Hashomer Hospital, the human eye is not well suited for close-range work, nor are computer terminals well designed for the human eye. Belkin attributes most complaints to unrelated eye problems, illumination problems, general working conditions and equipment.

While eye problems should be taken care of regardless of working environment, Belkin suggests several steps to reduce or eliminate eye fatigue and other complaints:

- Use high resolution computer terminals.
- Use fast-working terminals. This will reduce the irritating blinking of the display.
- Use terminals that provide a dark display on a light background. Today, most terminals offer a light display on a dark background.
- Use anti-glare spectacles or anti-glare mesh on the terminal's screen.

ASIDE FROM the terminal itself, the entire work station can be arranged for maximum comfort and minimum effort. Chairs should be adjustable so as to enable the user to sit at the proper angle to the screen. The top of the screen should be 10 degrees and the screen's centre 20 degrees below the user's straight-ahead seeing position.

The distance between the user's eyes and the screen should be 35 to 50 centimetres. Reference material should be placed as close to the terminal as possible. This will pre-



This terminal's light display on a dark background can contribute to eye fatigue.

vent the need for frequent changes of eye focus and reduce eye fatigue.

Proper illumination and humidity can improve working conditions. Most offices are illuminated by fluorescent tubes that flicker 50 times per second. This flickering, though barely noticeable, tires the eyes. High-frequency fluorescent tubes can solve the problem.

Overall illumination should be less than that of customary office lighting levels while the terminals' brightness level should be adjustable, and usually three to four times greater than room illumination. Lighting should be indirect to prevent glare problems.

Relative humidity in the working environment should be 65 to 70 per cent, which is considerably higher than customary levels. This will compensate for the reduced blinking rate that is the result of concentration and the increased dryness of the eyes' external surface.

Rest breaks of 15 minutes every two hours will allow the eye muscles some relaxation and prevent fatigue from accumulating.

Simpas, a chain of optometrists, offers on-the-job eye examinations for computer operators. The tests were devised by Prof. Belkin. Optometrists will examine the working conditions and the eyes of each worker to determine the optimal setup for each individual.

Other complaints, relating primarily to potential harm from computer terminal X-rays, ultra-violet, infra-red and other types of radiation are dismissed by most scientists as unsubstantiated.



A PANASONIC computer has been taught to draw portraits of people sitting in front of a TV camera — a development that is sure to stir a debate among art critics about whether computer-made portraits are really art.

The computer-cum-robot was a great hit at the Tsukuba Science Exhibition in Japan over a year ago, and its Japanese designers are now considering what practical uses it has.

According to a report in June's *Popular Science* magazine, the computer needs only about half a minute to commit to memory the features of the subject sitting in front of the camera. Its programmers "taught" it to concentrate on special features like eyes, facial outlines and hair. This information, and all the variations of the face, are turned into numbers that would fill a volume of an encyclopedia.

Within a minute, the robot begins drawing a preview of its work on a computer monitor — the facial image as it would have appeared on an early-model copy machine. Then the robot picks up its brush and begins to draw with bold, confident strokes, producing an actual Japanese brush drawing.

Computer experts are amazed that the Panasonic software is sophisticated enough to understand a human face, determining which shadows are important and which are not. It also uses thick and thin brush strokes for just the right emphasis.

The program uses 256K of memory, and is written in C and assembly languages. The image-processing technique is already used for automation in factories, but the portrait-drawing is a new use of the technology.

KUPAT HOLIM rest houses are to be computerized with a system developed by the Mashov Company, which recently won a public tender to do the job. Hotel 3000, the computer system developed by Mashov, computerizes reception bills of agents and guests, food and beverage supplies and other services.

The Mashov contract totals \$150,000 a year for three years, and encompasses 13 rest homes of the Histradrut health fund around the country. Computer terminals are being installed in various parts of each rest home and will be able to communicate with each other easily. Mashov's Hotel 2000 and Hotel

# Artful robots

Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

3000 systems are already installed in 20 hotels and guest houses in Israel and another 200 hotels abroad.

HYPNOSIS may be safer using a computer to maintain a watch on biological and emotional processes in the person being hypnotized. This marriage of mind and machine was reported at the recent national conference of the Israel Hypnosis Association, which met in Haifa.

Dr. R. Vertikovsky, chairman of the association, said that computers are attached to the person via electrodes, which electronically report to the computer memory his brain waves, heartbeat, blood pressure and muscle tension. The doctor can thus more easily see how the hypnosis is affecting the person's body and mind, and give him better control. It can also be used by a patient to learn relaxation techniques with biofeedback, he maintained.

A recent experiment at Ichilov Hospital was conducted on women who suffered from chronic high blood pressure and who had been treated with drugs. They learned how to lower the blood pressure with help from the computer, as they watched their heartbeats and blood pressure fall when they succeeded in relaxing. According to Dr. Vertikovsky, their blood pressure fell by 30 per cent on average, allowing them to take less medication.

HAVING STRUGGLED with air pollution and industrial wastes, Japan now faces a more sophisticated environmental menace: "electronic smog." Electromagnetic waves are emitted by personal computers, TV game machines and other electronic appliances, and they often disturb sensitive machine control systems.

They can even trigger mishaps that endanger people. In an extreme case in 1982, a Japanese valve factory worker was killed with a lathe suddenly turned on. An investigation found that an electric spark from a crane at the factory emitted an electromagnetic wave, causing the lathe-operating robot to malfunction.

"This is an unwanted spin-off of the high-tech microchip age," says Hiroyasu Sonoki, chief of the moni-

toring section of Japan's Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

The French news agency AFP reports that there has been a sharp increase in accidents and complaints concerning unwanted radio waves in Japan in the past decade because of the exploding popularity of personal computers and video games. A special committee of experts was set up last summer to look into the problem. Last week, it reported on various electronic smog cases that could be traced to 150 different sources.

The committee said that radar screens at Osaka International Airport had been upset by electromagnetic waves from a booster attached to a TV antenna atop a nearby home. The setup could have caused major air disasters if left unchecked.

In 1984, vital radio communications at a railway station in southwestern Japan were jammed by similar waves from a video game at a nearby game centre. The ministry will soon set up a study group of experts and officials to work out specific measures to cope with the problem.

BRITISH AIRWAYS has turned to the Israeli computer software company Pilat for a system that will help it sort through 100,000 candidates for jobs at the airlines.

Avi Angel, director of Pilat, reports that his company developed a program for microcomputer that can be used by dozens of people at the same time. The program will help the airlines sort through applications of 100,000 people who apply for jobs each year, as well as handle personnel information on the 40,000 employees it now has.

Another Pilat program enables British Airways to assess the performance of its current employees, from the lowest-ranked to the highest executives. This program has been in operation for two years, and helped the company decide on promotion and bonuses. Similar programs will soon be available for use on IBM personal computers and be marketed in Israel.

HADASSAH in Jerusalem this fall will begin a new B.A. programme in computer sciences. It will include three years of study, and supplement the two-year practical engineering course available at the college. The B.A. programme will be run in cooperation with the Open University, and offer courses in computer graphics, artificial intelligence and program engineering. Registration has just opened.

COMPUTER SIMULATIONS will soon help in prospecting for oil and natural gas, following a new method developed in West Germany. Developed at the Jülich Nuclear Research Centre, the method simulates the geological history of a given basin. The conditions of the development, movement and accumulation of crude oil, are determined. The computer helps determine the type and amount of the hydrocarbons that were formed at a particular site.

# Super chips

SCIENTISTS and engineers at IBM's semiconductor facility in Essex Junction, Vermont, are developing an experimental computer chip that can store more than four million bits of data, or the equivalent of about 400 pages of double-spaced, typewritten text.

Memory chips, the miniaturized electronic circuits known in the industry as Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM), figure prominently in determining the speed and performance of a computer. The larger the capacity of the DRAM chip, the faster and more versatile the computer. Today's largest capacity DRAM chip can hold about one million bits of data.

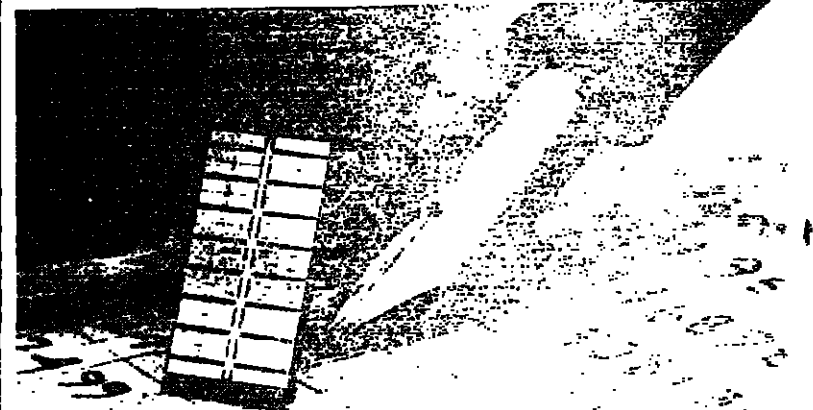
The world's computer-industry giants are currently in the midst of a race to develop and market four Megabit memory chips. The first company to come out with a commercial version of this new chip is likely to corner the market, earning billions, at least until the competition comes out with another version.

The new chip will be able to access each of the four million bits of data in 65 nanoseconds (billionth of a second), compared to 80

nanoseconds for the one-megabit chip. At this speed, all of the chip's 4,096 storage cells could be read in less than one quarter of a second.

Despite holding four times more data than its one-megabit predecessor, the new chip, which measures 8.35 by 12.5 millimetres, is only 35 per cent larger in area. The smallest geometric features in the circuit patterns on the chip have dimensions as small as 0.7 micrometres. This compares with a 1.5-micrometre minimum feature size in IBM's one-megabit chip. (One micrometre is about one-hundredth the thickness of a sheet of ordinary paper.) Each of the chip's four million memory cells occupies an area of 10.6 square micrometres, about one-third the area of the memory cell in IBM's older-generation chip. The cells are so small that almost 45,000 of them fit in an area the size of the period at the end of this sentence.

Putting more circuitry into smaller and smaller areas plays a key role in reducing the cost of manufacturing computer components. It also leads to improvements in the performance of data processing equipment. D.P.



IBM's new four megabit chip.

# Fast off the mark

Ken Schachter

NATIONAL Semiconductor Israel (NSCI), in a bid to outstrip its rivals at Intel and Motorola, is advancing with the development of the first microprocessor manufactured in Israel, the NS32532.

Prototypes of the central processing units — the "brains" of computers, printers and other advanced electronics — are expected to be ready in a few months.

The marketing manager of National Semiconductor Israel, Yoram Zahavi, said the new units would be faster than those of its rivals.

The new chip was designed at the NSC's Herzliya facility and will be produced at the company's plant at Migdal Ha'emek.

Zahavi said the work force at Migdal Ha'emek is being boosted

from 150 to about 200 now, and will be increased to 250 when the plant reaches full production. The new microprocessor will be fully compatible with earlier models within NSC's 32000 series, allowing customers to gain increased performance by replacing the central processing units without having to rewrite the software.

Since the evolution of modern computer-based products require that companies commit themselves to a processing unit early in product development, several companies already have decided to use the NS32532 in upcoming projects: Dataproducts for its laser printer; Encore Computer Corp. in its parallel processing systems; and General Electric in its three-dimensional solids modelling accelerator.



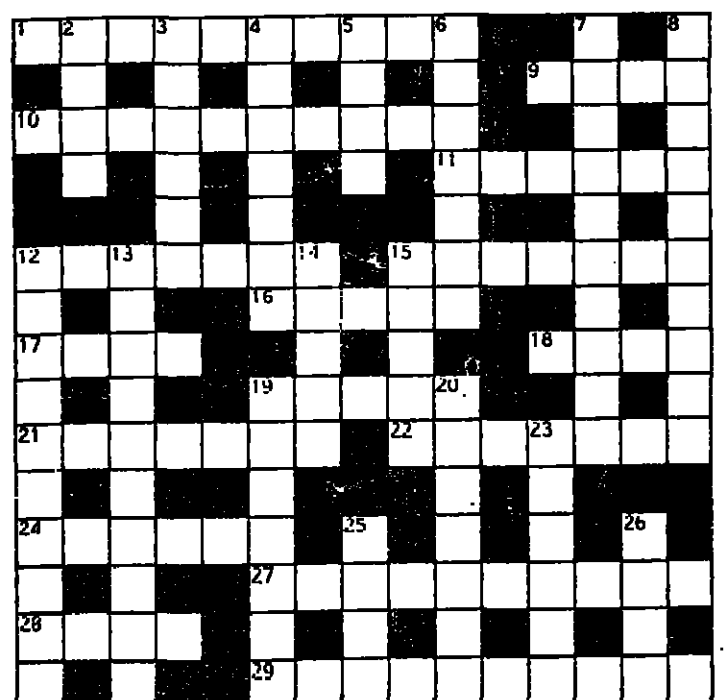
## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

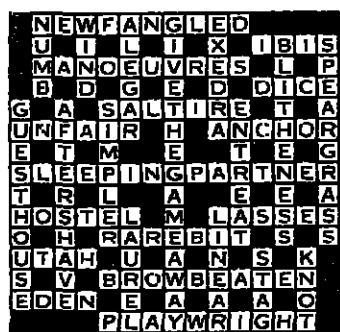
- 1 Not good enough for a Dane — quite unreliable (10)
- 9 Dressed and caught the youth (4)
- 10 A negotiator will find the answer lies in farm-machinery (10)
- 11 Standard of Roman revolutionary figure (6)
- 12 Red mark placed on obstruction (7)
- 15 Rises for a fool occupied by money (7)
- 16 Giving a trainee direction is of minimal importance (5)
- 17 Rugby union not out for total defeat (4)
- 18 A great sea-power (4)

### DOWN

- 19 Some will fare worse backing a sportsman (5)
- 21 The woman holding a contest for the not-so-slim (7)
- 22 Return to office again (2-5)
- 24 Very loud in order to cause annoyance (6)
- 27 Trying out new lines (10)
- 28 Lear is mad at drop in rank (4)
- 29 Put in a hazardous situation, and finish up in a rage (10)
- 2 An emperor, in a manner of speaking (4)
- 3 A meal the doctor gets about nine possibly (6)
- 4 Roll when there's controversy (7)
- 5 Not in favour of a hard worker being put over one (4)



### Yesterday's Solutions



### QUICK SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Dominie, 5 Wring, 8 Meron, 9 Flotsam, 10 Spectacle, 12 Nil, 13 Sleepy, 14 Career, 17 Rag, 18 Apprehend, 20 Amnesia, 21 Deceive, 23 Tryst, 24 Leeward. DOWN: 1 Dumas, 2 Mar, 3 Non-stop, 4 Efficacy, 5 Whole, 6 Incisive, 7 Gambler, 11 Emergency, 13 Servant, 15 Anemone, 16 Sprawl, 18 Asset, 19 Dread, 22 Eta.

## QUICK CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 Evergreen tree
- 4 Make off
- 9 Brochure
- 10 Male relative
- 11 Always
- 12 Take out
- 13 Distant
- 14 Uncovered
- 15 Pleasant
- 18 Small portion
- 20 Monk
- 21 Tolerate
- 24 Coins
- 25 Set free
- 26 Sauce
- 27 Foe

### DOWN

- 1 Assistant
- 2 Depart
- 3 Christmas
- 5 Jubilant
- 6 Outdated
- 7 Ample
- 8 Sav
- 13 Intrepid
- 15 Munitions store
- 17 Suitable
- 18 Facial hair
- 19 Avaricious
- 22 Rub out
- 23 Runaway

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### DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (pediatrics), Hadesah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, ophthalmology), Hadesah Scopus (obstetrics, orthopedics), Bikur Holim (N.E.). Tel Aviv: Rotah (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery). Netanya: Laniado.

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Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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## What is happening on the West Bank?

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## MARKET PLACE

STEPHEN ADDISON

## Election results

Market pundits see British stock and government bond prices, and the pound, taking a tumble if Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's incumbent Conservatives lose tomorrow's general election. The attitude of the Japanese and other big foreign investors will be important, these analysts say.

A win by the left-wing Labour Party, or a stalemate in Parliament with the centrist Liberal-Social Democrat Alliance holding the balance of power, could wipe out a quarter of the value of sterling, exchange dealers suggest.

The stock market, too, would be hit, share analysts say, with most seeing an immediate drop of 20 to 25 per cent on the Financial Times Index of 100 leading shares. The index has lately been propelled into record-breaking territory around 2,250 points, again yesterday (see story on this page), largely by opinion polls suggesting a Thatcher win. It started the year at 1,680.

By contrast, a Conservative victory could take sterling up to around \$1.75 from \$1.65 recently, buoy government bonds or gilts, and send shares yet higher, perhaps by about 5 per cent.

Either way, with market-makers planning after-hours trading on election night, the impact of the results will be immediate. Television stations promise accurate results projections within minutes of the 10 p.m. close of voting on Thursday.

Sterling under Labour would be likely to slump, possibly even to a level of \$1.50, several analysts suggest. "There would certainly be a major sell-off, particularly from abroad, where the Thatcher figure is extremely important for confidence," says economist Russell Jones at brokers Hoare Govett. Glen Davies of Alexander, Laing and Cruickshank predicts that Labour would have to raise interest rates to reverse the slide.

A clear Conservative victory, though, would be likely to bring short-term inflows of money from Japanese and other foreign investors, pushing up the pound.

Besides appreciating against the dollar, currency experts see it rising to, or through, three Deutschmarks from 2.95 now, that would probably lead to a cut in interest rates—most likely by half a point to 8.5 per cent, says Lloyds Bank economist John Young, as the government would not want the pound to rise so high as to price British exports off the market. Chase Manhattan recently forecast a one-point cut in the event the pound breaches the three-mark level.

On share values, Adrian Fitzgerald of brokers Wood Mackenzie notes that the stock markets have done well under Labour in the past. But this time there was a worry that gains achieved through improvements in companies' real profitability under Thatcher might be lost.

A former Labour adviser who is now director of brokers Kleinwort Greaveson, Bernard Donoghue, sees a sharp downturn, partly because the various markets' built-in assumptions of a Conservative victory would be shattered. "The first reaction would be fairly dramatic," he forecasts.

Donoghue says the market is expecting overseas and especially Japanese funds to come in on a Conservative win, which would push the index up a little, if these funds do not materialize, however, he says, there might well be a dull period.

John Mant of stockbroker James Capel sees little upward reaction to a third consecutive term for Thatcher, noting the market is already quite expensive in historical terms and that a Conservative victory has been largely discounted. "Maybe 5 per cent rise, but there won't be a bonanza," (Reuters)

## UK firm buys Herzliya hotel

By GREER FAY CASHMAN  
After months of flirting with potential buyers, Israel Resort Hotels, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Israel Land Development Co., has sold its 73 per cent stake in the Sharon Hotel in Herzliya.

The \$2.8 million sale was made to CP Holdings Ltd., a British investment group, which I.L.D. Managing Director Eli Shavit said is an engineering concern with no previous tourist interests. The two sides have initiated an agreement for the sale and have set June 23 as the closing date for the contract signing.

The Sharon, once the jewel in the I.R.H. crown, has in recent years been running at an annual loss of around \$500,000. The hotel was closed some months ago for refurbishing, but was not reopened. Both the Dan hotel chain and entrepreneur Sir Leon Tamman, who owns the Daniel Towers Hotel, had been seriously negotiating for acquisition of the Sharon.

Tamman is reported to have made a substantially higher bid than CP Holdings, but the small shareholders were opposed to Tamman.

CP Holdings has no connection with CP Hotels, a Canadian company that manages the Tiberias Plaza.

## Trade deficit narrowed in May

By DAVID ROSENBERG  
Israel's trade deficit narrowed for the second straight month in May, as the growth imports slowed and exports continued to increase at a brisk pace, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

The May trade deficit came to \$309.4 million, down 29.2 per cent from April, with exports rising to \$673.6m. in the month. A day earlier, the bureau reported that May imports were \$983m.

There was also a substantial improvement on the monthly average for April and May, compared with February-March. For April-May, the average trade deficit came to \$230m., down 24 per cent from

February-March. For the first five months of the year, however, the picture was less bright. The January-May 1987 trade gap was 49 per cent higher than its level a year earlier, at \$1.32 billion, the statistics bureau reported. The widening deficit came as import growth outpaced exports' gain 22 to 14 per cent on a year-on-year basis.

The trade gap for the first five months of 1987, on a monthly average basis, was about the same level as in the last half of 1986.

On the whole, the latest figures pointed to a narrowing trade deficit. Taking seasonally adjusted averages, which exclude ships, aircraft and diamonds, the gap has declined

sharply since a huge \$418.1m. trade gap was posted in February. Exports have been gaining, from a seasonally adjusted \$425.9m. in February to \$535.4m. in May, while imports have been declining, from \$844m. in February to \$733.2m. in May.

Comparing the April-May period with February-March, the bureau noted that exports had gained about 13 per cent while import growth had remained relatively stagnant.

On the export side, the April-May average was up 13 per cent from February-March, the bureau said.

Industrial exports for April-May were up 12 per cent from the previous two-month period, while the monthly average for the first five

months of 1987 was up 10 per cent from the second half of 1986.

Agricultural exports, excluding citrus, fell 9 per cent in April-May from the previous two months. Nevertheless, the first five months posted an average monthly increase of 7 per cent over the second half of 1986.

The average monthly level of diamond exports for April-May was largely unchanged.

For the first five months, net exports grew 14 per cent from a year earlier to \$3.3b., with the diamond sector showing a 23 per cent gain and all other industrial categories posting a 12 per cent rise. Agricultural exports were up 6 per cent.

## 'Cannon rescuer has criminal ties'

By TOM TUGEND  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent  
LOS ANGELES. — One of the chief businessmen involved in the rescue of the debt-ridden Cannon Group has been charged with criminal financial dealings in his native Italy and, according to one magazine story, is a figurehead for Arab investors.

The accused is Giancarlo Parretti, first vice president of Interpart, a Luxembourg-based company, *The Los Angeles Times* reported yesterday. Last weekend, Interpart joined Cannon chief Menahem Golan and Yoram Globus in forming the holding company Interpart, which

which promised to aid the troubled film studio with a \$10 million loan and a financial restructuring plan.

Parretti and his French partner Frederic Scherer have been named executive vice presidents and directors of finance for Cannon.

In a statement filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Parretti is said to be currently "subject to a criminal proceeding pending in Italy, in connection with an alleged misstatement of the balance sheets of Siracusa Calcio, a soccer team, and *Il Diario*, a newspaper."

The statement also disclosed that

Interpart had purchased nearly 11 per cent of Cannon shares in the open market during the past three weeks. Golan and Globus apparently control slightly over 25 per cent of Cannon's common stock, which was to have been pooled with Interpart's holdings in the newly formed Interpart.

The Italian magazine *Panorama* reported last year that Parretti was a 40 per cent owner of Interpart and serves as a figurehead for a group of Arab investors. Parretti could not be reached, but his partner Scherer said the report was unfounded, according to *The Times*.

## Trading in Oren halted on debt rumours

By KEN SCHACHTER  
For The Jerusalem Post  
TEL AVIV. — Trading was halted on the shores of Oren Buildings Development and Investment Ltd. yesterday as the building firm announced it was negotiating to reschedule repayment of NIS 6.9 million in loans to Bank Leumi.

The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange questioned the company about its financial position as rumours spread in recent days that the firm was having difficulty in meeting its short-term debts. Trading in the firm, controlled by the family of Managing Director Yoni Horowitz, was expected to resume today.

Responding to queries from the stock exchange, Oren said it had no financial obligations to its parent company, Yavi Trading and Investment Co., but had made guarantees to A.S.Y.L., in which it holds a one-third share.

Oren officials attributed the company's debt service problem to heavy capital costs, difficulties in collecting debts, a downturn in the construction sector, and hurdles to building on extensive property it owns in Ashdod.

The stock exchange inquiry about Oren's debt position apparently came in response to rumours that the firm had obligations to other companies under the Yavi umbrella, which also is controlled by the Horowitz family. When contacted about the story, Yoni Horowitz declined to elaborate beyond the statement given to the stock exchange.

In a financial report for the six months ending September 30, 1986, Oren reported a net loss of NIS 2.59m. compared with a loss of NIS 2.04m. for the same period of 1985. The six-month loss in 1986 amounted to NIS 3.32 a share versus NIS 2.76 a share for the period a year earlier.

Oren reported operating profit for the 1986 period of NIS 976,000, but capital costs of NIS 3m. left the losses exceeding revenues.

A major holding of the company is in Ashdod, where Oren has 27,350 square metres of land zoned for 440 flats and 1,500 square metres of office space. It also has built 3,117 square metres of commercial space in Eilat in Gush Etzion.

One of the firm's directors, Zalman Shoval, resigned in recent weeks amid the company's continuing financial upheaval.

The company has also been active in Kiryat Malachi, where it has built a commercial centre that includes offices and stores and the firm retains rights to build additional units there.

## VENICE MEET

(Continued from Page One)

from allied leaders on U.S. efforts to protect Gulf shipping.

"The principle of freedom of navigation in the Gulf is of paramount importance for us and for others, and must be upheld," the seven said.

The leaders, in another measure of support for Reagan, urged the UN to adopt "just and effective measures" for mediating the nearly seven-year-old Gulf war.

There was no specific reference, however, to imposing an international arms embargo against Iran. The U.S. is trying to rally support here and at the UN for a resolution to deny Iran the weapons it needs to fight Iraq.

A separate political text on East-West relations reaffirmed the "continuing importance of nuclear deterrence in preserving peace" but also lauded U.S. efforts to negotiate balanced and verifiable reductions in nuclear stockpiles with Moscow.

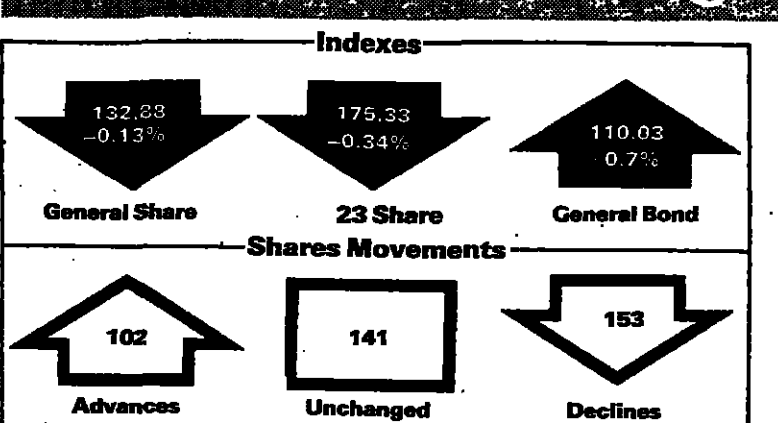
The text, hammered out on Monday night, made no specific mention of the "double zero" option under consideration to eliminate all longer- and shorter-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

It called for improvement in Moscow's human rights record and efforts to peacefully resolve regional conflicts. The text urged a rapid and total withdrawal of all Soviet forces from Afghanistan, but made no mention of the Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

In response, Tass said yesterday that the Western leaders in Venice had failed to give a concrete reply to Soviet arms control offers and had rejected a U.S. bid for collective military action in the Gulf.

The finance ministers of the seven yesterday agreed to coordinate the monitoring of their economic performance and reaffirmed their commitment to stabilize foreign currency exchange rates.

## Tel Aviv Stock Exchange



## Selected Prices

Name	Price	Lower	Higher	% Change
<b>Commercial Banks</b>				
Bank Leumi	22280	5	-	-
Bank Hapoalim	2315	4734	-2.5	-
Bank Mizrahi	2805	37	-0.5	-
Bank Haheretz	9800	4186	-3.4	-
<b>Commercial Banks</b>				
Bank Leumi	59900	336	+0.3	-
Bank Hapoalim	71500	49	-0.8	-
Bank Mizrahi	12280	19	+0.5	-
Bank Haheretz	39450	200	-	-
Hapoalim r	65000	743	-	-
General A	108250	20	-	-
Leumi r	41380	1554	-0.4	-
Fin. Trade	58200	-	-	-
<b>Mortgage Banks</b>				
Leumi Mort.	11460	1223	-	-
Dev. Mort.	4171	1028	-	-
Mishkan r	2805	37	-0.5	-
Tel Aviv r	26400	343	-0.8	-
Mekor r	3570	208	-	-
<b>Financial Institutions</b>				
AgriCo	No trading			
Leumi Ind.	10001	389	+0.6	-
Ind. Dev. DD	No trading			
Leumi Leasing 01	28500	54	+0.1	-
<b>Insurance</b>				
Ararat 01 r	1950	408	-6.1	-
Phoenix 01	720	6818	-2.5	-
Haheretz 01	6880	210	-1.3	-
Manorah 1	3189	230	-1.0	-
Salzer 7	2875	37	-0.5	-
Securities	1880	2295	-2.7	-
Zion Hold. 1	10700	5	-	-

## Investment Companies

Name	Price	Lower	Higher	% Change
Israel Corp. 1.0	5400	5851	+1.9	-
Wolfson 11	139900	182	-0.1	-
Hapoalim Inv.	11820	671	-	-
Mishkan Inv.	38400	182	-0.1	-
Yisroel	265	18900	+2.3	-
Puma 01	9720	233	-10.0	-
Phylon	18000	433	-	-

## Oil Exploration

Name	Price	Lower	Higher	% Change
Paz Oil Exp.	47750	100	-2.3	-
J.O.E.L.	953	18757	-	-

## 23 Shares

Name	Price	Lower	Higher	% Change
First Interpart	8018	1050	-	-
Haheretz r	394	94000	-4.25	-
Supersol A	15800	60	-	-
Supersol B	12015	140	-1.0	-
Delek r	3166	7280	-0.8	-
Prop. & Building	4183	200	-1.0	-
ILCO	81843	100	+0.50	-
Impro	5051	383	+3.2	-
Clal R Estate	801	890	-1.25	-
Delta Galil 1	940	2100	-1.00	-
Agan	5882	1120	-	-
Tel Aviv r	2000	3200	-	-
David Sea	12015	140	-1.0	-
Petrochem	2982	6750	-1.25	-
Central Trade	421843	22	-1.50	-
Clal Industries	13316	155	-1.0	-
Clal Develop.	274	87000	-0.75	-
Elron	11728	180	-0.50	-
Discount Invest	6850	130	-0.75	-
Clal 1.0	7148	1800	-0.50	-
Paz Invest.	1483	8000	-0.8	-
Paz Invest.	3588	200	-0.75	-

## Real Estate, Building and Agriculture

Name	Price	Lower	Higher	% Change
Azoria	No trading			
Al-Rov	1925	211	-6.1	-
Africa Int. 0.1	58810	307	-1.0	-
Africa Int. 0.1	48500	383	-0.5	-
Dankner	8100	3387	-2.8	-
J.E.C.	325	20377	-	-
Baykela Oil	Not available			
Mahadim Prop.	7000	3359	-3.7	-
Mahadim Prop.	1875	1254	-2.8	-

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## Bankamerica sets aside \$1.1b. for bad Third World debts

SAN FRANCISCO (AP). — Bankamerica Corp. on Monday increased its loan-loss reserve by \$1.1 billion in line with similar steps taken by other major U.S. banks.

The ailing bank's holding company — which earlier had said it did not plan a major addition to its reserves for Third World loans — said it now expects to report a net loss of approximately \$1b. for the second quarter, as well as a loss for the full year.

Bankamerica said its reserves had been adequate but that it was compelled to follow the lead of Citicorp, Chase Manhattan and other U.S. banks that within the past month have set aside special reserves for

possibly uncollectable loans from developing nations.

Bankamerica, the second-largest U.S. banking institution, has lost \$855 million in the last two years, largely due to problems with foreign loans. It posted net profits of \$82m. and \$67m. in the past two quarters due primarily to the sale of assets. It had predicted a return to operating profitability by the second half of this year.

A.W. Clausen, chairman and chief executive officer, said as recently as two weeks ago that 1987 would be the "turnaround year" for Bankamerica, but he acknowledged that the foreign-debt situation could drastically alter the company's picture.

## Foreign Markets

## EUROPEAN FINANCIAL MARKETS (June 9)

## Precious Metals

Gold	London	a.m. fix.	452.05	Sterling	1 month	3 months	6 months
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## The Chief Rabbinate's case

THIS IS THE TIME for all sensible Jews in this country, regardless of religious conviction or even the lack of it, and irrespective of political belief, to come to the aid of the Chief Rabbinate.

A strange call to issue from this particular column? Not at all. To the overwhelming majority of Jews in the Jewish state the Chief Rabbinate is, whether they like it or not, the official representative of Judaism as religion, both internally and externally. Politically, the Chief Rabbinate is sustained mainly by the National Religious Party. But the two chief rabbis represent — and are formally elected by — the entire Jewish community.

Even anti-Orthodox Jews who deplore Orthodoxy's monopolistic hold over religious life in Israel do not question that the Chief Rabbinate is the legally certified exponent of Orthodoxy, the only recognized brand of Judaism.

The true challenge to the authority of the Chief Rabbinate has long, and of late increasingly, been coming from the direction of radical ultra-Orthodoxy, ranging from the fiercely anti-Zionist Neturei Karta to the merely non-Zionist Agudat Yisrael and Shas. These latter-day Karaites find the Chief Rabbinate, for all its recent efforts to placate them, much too "liberal" for their strictly anti-innovatory tastes, and much too Zionist.

When it suits them, of course, the ultra-Orthodox are not above hanging on to the Chief Rabbinate's coattails. As they are doing in the matter of the mooted amendment to the old mandatory Religious Communities Conversion Ordinance, which would make conversions to Judaism both within and outside the country dependent on the chief rabbis' say-so.

But ultra-Orthodoxy's shared common purpose, for all its internal divisions, is to undermine the Chief Rabbinate's position and cut it down to no size at all. Its latest enterprise, in this *shmita* (sabbatical) year, is aimed to prove that the literalist reading of the biblical injunction that the land must be fallow throughout the year is not only halachically superior, but will in fact oust the Chief Rabbinate's reformist version.

Incredibly, the religious diehards, who represent not only a tiny minority within the general Jewish population but even a small fraction of the religious community, may turn out to have the upper hand in this controversy. If they are not told off in the plainest terms.

Basing themselves on an old ruling by the late, widely revered Rabbi Avraham Yitzhak Hacohen Kook, the country's first chief Ashkenazi rabbi, Rabbis Avraham Shapiro and Mordechai Eliahu have decided that, since Israel is still in a state of emergency, its Jewish farmers may, as it were, sell their land to non-Jews this year and continue to work it and reap its produce. This decades-old creative halachic interpretation has been regularly opposed by the ultra-Orthodox since it was given by Rabbi Kook, but it has just as regularly been implemented during *shmita* years by farmers willing to accept it.

This year the diehards have been emboldened to challenge the Chief Rabbinate — and, through it, the State of Israel itself — head-on.

The issue is not whether haredi Jews will or will not be able to eat baked bread from strictly non-Jewish flour, if they so desire: that can easily be fixed, as it always has been. The issue is whether ultra-Orthodoxy will be allowed to bend the entire country to a senseless prohibition, and in a bumper-crop year for wheat growers at that. Haredi rabbis in Jerusalem and Bnei Brak, employing the same blackmail tactics that successfully induced most food processors in Israel to obtain ultra-Orthodox instead of Chief Rabbinate kosher certificates, have already contrived to deter most mill owners from grinding this year's local Jewish wheat.

What the rabbis propose by way of a solution to the problem of the fast accumulating wheat stocks is a circular deal, whereby Jewish-Israeli wheat will be sold abroad while cheap U.S. wheat will be imported.

It is probably pointless to argue — as some authorities have in fact argued — that the proposal is itself halachically defective, for Halacha, strictly interpreted, does not allow the sale of wheat harvested in a *shmita* year, not even abroad. More to the point is the strong likelihood that its adoption would cost the hard-pressed Treasury anywhere between \$7 and \$40 million, and all in order that ultra-Orthodoxy could — as one diehard cleric put it — slap the Chief Rabbinate in the face.

Next Sunday the government is due to take up the proposed deal, which Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon is reported to favour, evidently in a bid to demonstrate how truly sorry he is not to have been born religious. If there is any shame left in this government, it will consign the proposal to the trash can. For once, the cause of the Chief Rabbinate is Israel's cause.

To underline the fact, and give vent to their true feelings, Israeli patriots might well take up the suggestion made by NRP secretary Shaul Yahalom that they boycott all products bearing the kosher certificates of ultra-Orthodox courts and rabbis.

## PERES BALLOON

(Continued from Page One)

out." He said that the idea faced many constitutional obstacles. For example, the Knesset might ignore the referendum's outcome.

MK Haim Kaufman (Likud) said that "last week Peres's gimmick was a canal between the Dead and Red Seas as a way of solving the economic problems of Israel and Jordan. This week's gimmick is the referendum."

Constitutional law expert Prof. Hans Klinghoffer said last night that he thought a referendum could be held in Israel. But he opposed a binding plebiscite since it would "undermine the sovereignty of the Knesset."

Peres said last night during a visit to Beersheba: "I want to first examine, along with legal experts, the constitutional ramifications of such a process. This should take several days." If a referendum is proposed, he continued, it will come either upon the recommendation of the prime minister, in which case it will certainly pass the Knesset, or as a result of a Knesset bill.

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"And six years shalt thou sow thy land, and shalt gather in the fruits thereof. But the seventh year thou shalt let it rest and lie still; that the poor of thy people may eat; and what they leave, the beasts of the field shall eat." (Exodus XXIII: 10-11);

"At the end of every seven years, thou shalt make a release (*shmita*). And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother because he hath procured a release unto the Lord." (Deuteronomy XV: 1-2).

ACCORDING TO the Hebrew calendar, the present year — 5747 — which corresponds to the agricultural year which began in September 1986, is a *shmita* year. Accordingly, the director-general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Yoram Belzilovsky, has instructed the country's granary operators not to accept wheat from this year's yield for storage. This is the first time such an instruction has been issued in Israel's 39 years.

The above citations from the Books of Moses are of less importance to an understanding of the startling change in policy, than is the recent statement by the Ministry of Industry and Trade, *reb* Arik Sharon, *shlit*, that he truly regrets not having been born an ultra-Orthodox haredi. It is not that Arik has seen the light and has decided to go in the ways of those other well-known, born-again penitents from the entertainment world. It is, like other big-party politicians, he has done his coalition algebra and come to the conclusion that giving in to the anti-Zionist *haredim* on *shmita*, can further cement the support of Agudat Yisrael and Shas for a Likud government after the next elections.

The instructions to the granaries are only part of a much broader programme by which all the wheat grown this year is to be sold abroad

and wheat is to be purchased from the U.S. for local use. Estimates of the cost to the national economy of this exchange, despite the \$80 a ton U.S. subsidy, range between \$10-50 million. This of course may be chicken-feed for a government that is already inured to writing off hundreds of millions of dollars as payment for its habitual mismanagement and buying off of the small *haredi* parties.

It is not only Arik and the Likud. Labour's Minister of Agriculture Arye Nehamkin is going along with the entire exercise. This week, it was also reported that three major commercial kibbutz bakeries, which account for 17 per cent of the country's bread production, have decided not to buy flour milled from locally-grown wheat, but only that made from imported wheat. The kibbutz bakeries also know which side their loaves are buttered on, for their products are under the *hechsher*, not of the Chief Rabbinate but of the Beit Din Zedek of the Eda Haredit.

That well-known sufferer of misadventures to the West Wall, *reb* Shimon Peres, must be eating his heart out at the thought that Sharon has stolen a march on him on the way to the hearts and votes of the Aguda and Shas.

ONE INTERESTING aspect of the whole question of *shmita* is that adherence to it among the observant and the rabbis they follow, has been extremely selective, both in ancient times and since the beginnings of modern Zionist settlement in this country. The two citations above from the Bible, contrast the earlier agricultural basis for *shmita* (which

# Sowing haredi votes

Yosef Goell

some claim was an ancient form of crop rotation) with the social basis of Deuteronomy, which called for a moratorium on debts.

One of the bits of talmudic lore, known even to non-scholars, is that by the time of the Second Temple, Hillel the Elder dared challenge an express biblical injunction, by issuing his *proshul* dispensation, which effectively cancelled the biblical commandment for the sabbatical year moratorium on debts. Hillel's very reasonable argument was that rich men were refusing to lend money to poor farmers as the *shmita* year approached, and that literal adherence to the biblical commandment would mean that such poor people would starve to death. A creative rabbi like Hillel knew his priorities, and took it upon himself to opt in favour of the poor and of social reality even against the divine, thousand-year-old Torah commandment.

Following the Roman destruction of the Temple, and especially after the failed Bar Kochba revolt, the restrictions on *shmita* were relaxed, primarily under the pressure of the Romans, who insisted on collecting taxes even during the *shmita* year. Jewish farmers could simply not pay such taxes while letting their fields lay fallow, and many rabbis of the period backed them in their plight.

In modern times, the practice of *shmita* in the renewed Zionist agricultural settlements in Palestine became an issue between the mainstream Orthodox Zionists and the anti-Zionist *haredim*. Chief Rabbi Kook, during the Mandatory period,

found a way of permitting the use of produce grown during the *shmita* year, though other rabbis opposed it.

Until the present day, the small minority of *haredim*, have been punctilious in making sure that the food they purchase has not been manufactured from agricultural produce grown in Jewish land during the *shmita* year. They eat food grown by Arabs, imported from abroad, or stored from a previous year. They are entitled to their idiosyncrasy. What is new is that the secular government of national unity (?) is now determined to foist this expensive practice on the rest of the country. One of the paradoxes of this situation is that the selling out to the ultra-Orthodox, anti-Zionist, *haredim*, the ostensibly Zionist Likud and Labour are also undermining the more pragmatic approach of the putatively Zionist Chief Rabbinate. But what doesn't one do for six Knesset votes, especially when both major parties are so evenly matched?

The present decisions on *shmita* year produce are of a piece with the government's reluctance to institute summer time, until forced to do so by High Court rulings. From the point of view of expense, the cost of this latest surrender to the Aguda and Shas is equivalent to the cost of banning El Al flights on Shabbat. Cumulative, it is a high price for the country to pay. And there is good reason to fear that the end is not in sight.

One of the interesting aspects of the selectivity of the *haredim* in

regard to the biblical injunctions they choose to follow, and those they choose to ignore is that not a word is heard from them about the social aspect of the sabbatical moratorium on debts, or concerning the prohibition on usury. Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox banks are in there with all the others in charging what the market will bear, not what the Bible commands. This is yet another example of how the rabbinate, in exercising its selectivity, insists on opting for the ritual at the expense of the social injunctions of the Bible.

Judaism as a culture has survived these thousands of years because its spiritual and temporal leaders, and its rank-and-file practitioners knew how to strike a liveable balance between preserving ancient forms and adapting to changing conditions. Throughout the ages this has also meant ignoring rabbinical pedants who knew little about real life. At no time has this gap between rabbinical pedantry and obscurantism, and the needs of real life, been greater than in the present century, of rapid social, political and technological change.

The cynicism of the Likud is such that little can be expected from them in reversing this sell-out to the *haredi* splinter parties. There is room to fight that fight within Labour, although the prospects for success would seem to be slim. Still, it is a fight worth fighting, in the knowledge that if the Labour Party refuses to stand up for the principles on which it was founded, there are smaller parties devoted to the cause of a modern Israel and Judaism, that are worthier of electoral support.

The writer is a member of the editorial staff of The Jerusalem Post.

# Who needs compassion?

David Krivine

time put welfare first and production last. What was the result? Full employment and social security, certainly; but meanwhile, the country lost status. Only yesterday, Britain was one of the world's leading economic powers, with living standards higher than those prevailing in France, Germany or Japan. Today she has become Western Europe's poor relation, Italy (of all countries) now claims to have a higher gross product than the United Kingdom, and brazenly demands to replace the UK in the economic Group of Five.

Thatcher's order of priorities is different. She puts human welfare at the bottom of the list, and gives pride of place to the merciless rules of market competition. Profits come first; workers who are redundant should be fired. Britain needs a strong pound, a strong balance of payments, a strong economy.

Her policy has caused hardship, and at first did not seem to be engendering benefits. Industry shed labour, while no alternative employment was provided. Output remained sluggish and the trade gap

swayed. The country was only saved from a chronic foreign-payments crisis by the discovery of North Sea oil. And Thatcher was only saved from defeat in the last elections by the Falklands War. Jingoism serves her purpose.

What will save the Tory mother-figure this time? A last-minute upturn in the economy, that is what. For eight long years she stuck to her guns. Not for nothing is she called the Iron Lady. Unlike her Conservative predecessor Edward Heath, she did not yield to the miners when they struck, though the world's most veteran coal industry ground to an almost complete halt for 12 whole months.

She persevered; she was sure salvation would come. For a long time it didn't, but she remained undeterred. She clung to the classic economic theory, she believed new industries would rise to take up the slack.

Nothing of the sort happened. New job opportunities did not present themselves, because there turned out to be a flaw in the classic theory. Unemployment ought to have forced wages down. But the trade unions were so strong that they were able, despite everything, to force salaries up — discouraging firms from expanding and investors from investing.

ON THE OTHER hand, companies which had shed surplus labour began to do well. Coal, steel, motor and other industries were able to produce just as much with half the workers. That meant productivity was improving. Output per worker in the manufacturing sector had risen by less than one per cent per annum in the pre-Thatcher years 1973-79. It rose by 3.5 per cent per annum in 1979-86.

Suddenly things started changing. Rich countries which had caught up with Britain and overtaken her showed signs of slowing down. Britain, the slow coach, began, on the contrary, to speed up. At something

like 3 per cent per annum she is becoming a leader in the growth league. Unemployment is dropping — slowly (it is still above 5m.) but the trend is downwards. The latest trade figures are favourable, at least if invisibles are included.

Progress is slow; however there is progress, and that is a change for the dispirited Britishers. It is a change that above all affects their country's prestige. They see that the value of the pound sterling has recovered from \$1 to above \$1.60, and never mind that it is the dollar which fell rather than the other way round.

Should Thatcher get in, share prices will go up. If Labour gets in, or if there is a "hung Parliament," they will go down. That is because of the profiteers — they are on her side, mutter the socialists. Maybe so, but everybody likes a boom.

Maggie may not be compassionate, as the opposition keeps saying, but she is restoring the nation's noble image. The tail of the morose British lion shows signs of wagging. Surprisingly, these factors count among ordinary people, even at election time.

The writer is a member of the editorial staff of The Jerusalem Post.

## READERS' LETTERS

### HANNA SINIORA

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — On June 4, the Foreign Press Association in Israel organized a meeting with Palestinian Arabs from the West Bank and Jerusalem. In your front-page June 5 report of Hanna Siniora's statement at that meeting, it was noted that he spoke "during a meeting with foreign journalists." That leaves open the possible interpretation that Mr. Siniora organized the event. Furthermore, Israeli TV on the evening of our

event reported that Mr. Siniora called a news conference for foreign press only.

We appreciate the opportunity to convey to your readers and to the Israeli TV audience that it was the Foreign Press Association which sponsored the June 4 event at the Association's sole initiative.

ROBERT SLATER  
Chairman,  
Foreign Press Association  
Tel Aviv.

### PRAISE INDEED

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — As it seems that one usually writes to a newspaper with letters of complaint, I decided to break this tradition and write with a letter of praise.

The coverage which The Jerusalem Post gave to Jerusalem throughout the week of the 20th anniversary of the city's reunification

was of both quality and quantity. I would like to congratulate you and your staff for the excellent job.

Jerusalem, its mayor, its residents, and the many visitors who filled the city during this period join in expressing warmest gratitude and thanks.

TEDDY KOLLEK  
Jerusalem.

### SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — It is reported that in spite of the deadlock in Israel regarding an international conference, the United States and the Soviet Union will open high-level discussions to convene such a conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. None of the great powers would ever consider such treatment of their own problems.

Great Britain would not allow an international forum which included the Soviet Union to discuss how the problems in Northern Ireland can be solved. If there should come a day in the United States when an Indian liberation movement, backed by the Soviet Union, China and all the Moslem countries, wished to have a major part of America as an American Indian State, 30 miles from Washington D.C., would Americans in such a case entrust their problems to the Soviets, China and the Moslem States?

However, this is what is being asked of Israel. Will this be the future official U.S. policy, a policy that may well mean that Judea and Samaria will become a Cuba-like Palestinian Arab State, 20 miles away from Tel Aviv? It is abundantly clear that the Soviets will never agree to back anyone in such a peace confrontation but the PLO, whatever wishful thinking there may be on the part of Israel and the U.S.

Britain would certainly refuse such an international forum to solve her problems with Ulster and the IRA.

The Soviet Union would not allow

such a forum to discuss her role in Afghanistan, nor for that matter, allow Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia or Poland to attend such an international forum to discuss a greater freedom of self-expression and independence for them.

In fact, what none of these nations would advocate for themselves, they are willing to force upon Israel. Even the fact that Israel, so tired of war, is nearly ready to go any way that will lead her people to peace (even a way that in the end will prove to be unproductive and harmful) does not excuse the hypocrisy of the nations forcing upon Israel a solution which none of them would be willing even to consider in their own case!

JAN WILLEM VAN DER HOEVEN  
Spokesman,  
International Christian Embassy  
Jerusalem.

### DANGEROUS CROSSING

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Further to my letter of May 22 and in rebuttal of the article (Q: Why does a film-fan cross the Hebron Road? A: To collect his life insurance!), I have received the following glad tidings from Mayor Teddy Kook.

"Because of our demands, B'nai

ANGLO-ISRAELI  
RELATIONS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I am currently conducting research on Anglo-Israeli relations 1949-1956. I would be most interested in hearing from anyone who served in the British Embassy in Tel Aviv between these years or who worked in our embassy in London.

Please write to me at the Ben-Gurion Research Centre, Kiryat Sde Boker, Negev 84993.

NATAN ARIDAN  
Sde Boker.

### MODERNIZE BUS-FARE COLLECTION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — It is beyond my comprehension that a country which can produce sophisticated fighter planes uses bus-fare collection systems which were obsolete in the early twenties.

A simple turnstile next to the bus driver — a very ordinary device compared to anything technical — can take coins, snap off tiny squares from multiple tickets and, with the aid of basic electronics, can accommodate those who are entitled to free fares.

Aside from the many benefits this very commonplace instrument would bring about, the main and overwhelming one would be that the driver would at long last be free to drive the bus.

M. FRIEDLANDER  
Jerusalem.

### SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — I read the reports of the murder of eight-year old Rami Haba with as much anger and revulsion as anyone. However, I have another nagging feeling — a feeling of surprise and anger — that it is apparently quite common for parents to leave young children without supervision, and often for several hours at night time.

In many civilized countries of the world, it is illegal to leave children alone unless they are 12 years old or more, and thinking parents usually ensure that their children are supervised well above that age. Surely it is time that in Israel we stopped paying lip service to our supposed love of children, and enacted laws to protect them.

Kiryat Ata.

JOHN DICKS

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